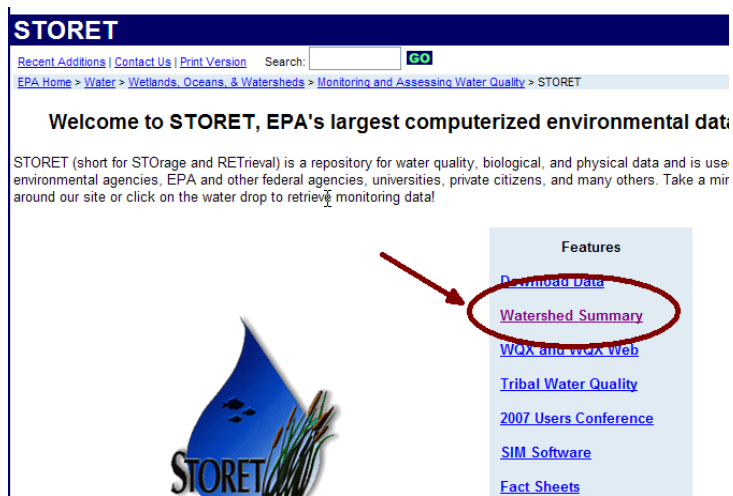


# Water Body Monitoring Data

STORET is US EPA's database of surface water and ground water data. It has a search tool on-line that allows you to quickly identify all of the stations and types of data available within in an 8 digit watershed. You can then download the raw quality information and metadata file. There will be a 12 digit search engine after 12 digit line work is complete for the entire country.


To make things go a little more smoothly make sure your e-mail account is open.

1. go to [www.epa.gov/storet](http://www.epa.gov/storet)
2. Click on "Watershed Summary" under features



3. If you know the 8 digit watershed for which you want data, click on go to "Watershed Summary"; otherwise click on the link to "Surf Your Watershed" for assistance in identifying the correct watershed.

## STORET Warehouse Watershed Summary



The STORET Watershed Summary shows the types of data available in the STORET Warehouse for a selected watershed (such as metals, nutrients, or pesticides data), who has entered the data, the period of record for the data, and how much data are available.

The Watershed Summary shows summary data for 8 digit HUCs, or Hydrologic Unit Codes. An 8-digit HUC is a watershed at a certain scale. If you do not know the 8-digit HUC that you are looking for, or to find the HUC nearest to you, please refer to EPA's [Surf your Watershed](#) website.

**NOTE:** Please make sure that your browser's Pop-up Blocker is set to **off** in order for the Watershed Summary to function properly. To turn off the Pop-up Blocker in Internet Explorer, go to **Tools** in the Menu Bar. Choose "Pop-up Blocker" > "Turn Off Pop-up Blocker".

[Go to Watershed Summary](#)

4. In this case we are using the Vermillion river watershed (05120109) Select your watershed from the drop down-list and push "Query"

The screenshot shows the STORET website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the STORET logo and links for "Recent Additions", "Contact Us", and "Print Version". A search bar with a "GO" button is also present. Below the navigation bar, the breadcrumb trail reads: "EPA Home > Water > Wetlands, Oceans, & Watersheds > Monitoring and Assessing Water Quality >". The main heading is "Results by Watershed". A dropdown menu is open, displaying a list of "Drainage Basin/HUC" options. The option "05120109 - Vermillion." is highlighted in blue, and a mouse cursor is pointing at it. Other options include "05100204 - Upper Kentucky.", "05100205 - Lower Kentucky.", "05110001 - Upper Green.", "05110002 - Barren.", "05110003 - Middle Green.", "05110004 - Rough.", "05110005 - Lower Green.", "05110006 - Pond.", "05120101 - Upper Wabash.", "05120102 - Salamonie.", "05120103 - Mississinewa.", "05120104 - Eel.", "05120105 - Middle Wabash-Deer.", "05120106 - Tippecanoe.", "05120107 - Wildcat.", "05120108 - Middle Wabash-Little Vermillion.", "05120110 - Sugar.", "05120111 - Middle Wabash-Busseron.", "05120112 - Embarras.", "05120113 - Lower Wabash.", "05120114 - Little Wabash.", "05120115 - Skillet.", and "05120109 - Vermillion." at the bottom of the list. A "Contact Us" link is visible to the right of the dropdown menu.

This screenshot shows the search results form on the STORET website. The heading is "Results by Watershed". A dropdown menu for "Drainage Basin/HUC" is set to "05120109 - Vermillion.". Below this, the "Search By" section has two radio buttons: "Organization" (which is selected) and "Characteristic Type". At the bottom of the form, a "Query" button is highlighted with a red circle, and a red arrow points to it from the right side of the image.

5. You will see a listing of available data you can see it by organization or characteristic type (to switch simply select characteristic type and press query again). For this exercise select IL EPA and then press Get results.

### Results by Watershed

Drainage Basin/HUC  
05120109 - Vermilion.

Search By  
 Organization  Characteristic Type

### Results by Watershed

Drainage Basin/HUC  
05120109 - Vermilion.

Search By  
 Organization  Characteristic Type

3 Organizations, 19 Stations, 231 Characteristics, 9,693 Results

Organization	
<input type="radio"/>	All Organizations of the Watershed
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	IL_EPA - Illinois EPA 03/28/2001 - 11/10/2005 (1884) Records <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>14 Stations</li> <li>162 Metal, 358 Nutrient, 314 Other, 11 PCB, 397 Pesticide, 642 Physical.</li> </ul>
<input type="radio"/>	INSTOR - Indiana STORET 01/03/1990 - 12/20/2005 (2268) Records <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 Stations</li> <li>178 Metal, 16 Microbiological, 227 Nutrient, 291 Other, 1556 Physical.</li> </ul>
<input type="radio"/>	NARS - EPA National Aquatic Resource Survey Data 01/01/2004 - 10/25/2004 (5541) Records <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 Stations</li> <li>120 Biological, 5314 Habitat, 12 Metal, 14 Other, 81 Physical.</li> </ul>

197 Characteristics, 9693 Records

Characteristic Type	Records
<input type="checkbox"/> Biological	120
<input type="checkbox"/> Habitat	5314
<input type="checkbox"/> Metal	352
<input type="checkbox"/> Microbiological	16
<input type="checkbox"/> Nutrient	585
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	619
<input type="checkbox"/> PCB	11
<input type="checkbox"/> Pesticide	397
<input type="checkbox"/> Physical	2279

6. Follow instructions on the STORET website to receive the file (provide your email address/give a three letter code). At this point you could also select from a variety of fields you might want with your data. Remember, not all organizations provide data for all those fields.

REGULAR (45 record(s))   
  BIOLOGICAL (0 record(s))   
  HABITAT (0 record(s))

Select Data Elements for Report(s)

<input type="checkbox"/> Org ID	<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Activity Lat/Long*	<input type="checkbox"/> Result Free Text
<input type="checkbox"/> Beach ID	<input type="checkbox"/> Conv Actual Activity Lat/Long*	<input type="checkbox"/> Weight Basis
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Org Name	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Habitat Class Name	<input type="checkbox"/> Temperature Basis
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Station ID	<input type="checkbox"/> Well Number	<input type="checkbox"/> Duration Basis
<input type="checkbox"/> Station Name	<input type="checkbox"/> Pipe Number	<input type="checkbox"/> Particle Size Basis
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Station Location Info*	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional Act Location Info*	<input type="checkbox"/> Distance Measured From
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Station Lat/Long*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Activity Depth	<input type="checkbox"/> Distance Measured To
<input type="checkbox"/> Conv Station Lat/Long*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Activity Depth Unit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Analytical Proc ID
<input type="checkbox"/> Station Types*	<input type="checkbox"/> Activity Upper Depth	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional Anal Proc Info*
<input type="checkbox"/> S/G/O Indicator	<input type="checkbox"/> Activity Rel Depth	<input type="checkbox"/> Lab Remark
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visit Num	<input type="checkbox"/> Activity Lower Depth	<input type="checkbox"/> Dilution Ind
<input type="checkbox"/> Visit Start*	<input type="checkbox"/> Upr Lwr Depth Unit	<input type="checkbox"/> Recovery Ind
<input type="checkbox"/> Visit Stop*	<input type="checkbox"/> Activity Depth Ref Point	<input type="checkbox"/> Correction Ind
<input type="checkbox"/> Trip ID	<input type="checkbox"/> Sample Collection ID	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Lab Info*
<input type="checkbox"/> Trip Name	<input type="checkbox"/> Field Gear ID	<input type="checkbox"/> Num of Repts
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Activity ID	<input type="checkbox"/> Field Gear Config ID	<input type="checkbox"/> Precision
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Activity Start*	<input type="checkbox"/> Sample Preservation*	<input type="checkbox"/> Bias
<input type="checkbox"/> Activity Stop*	<input type="checkbox"/> Portable Data Logger	<input type="checkbox"/> Conf Level
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Activity Medium	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Characteristic Name	<input type="checkbox"/> Correction for Bias Ind
<input type="checkbox"/> Activity Matrix	<input type="checkbox"/> CAS Num	<input type="checkbox"/> Result Document/Graphic Name
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Activity Type	<input type="checkbox"/> EPA Registry Num	<input type="checkbox"/> Result Document/Graphic URL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Activity Category-Rep Num	<input type="checkbox"/> ITIS Num	<input type="checkbox"/> Activity Document/Graphic Name
<input type="checkbox"/> Activity Intent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sample Fraction	<input type="checkbox"/> Activity Document/Graphic URL
<input type="checkbox"/> Activity Comment*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Value Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Net Tow Info*
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Sampled	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statistic Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Electroshock Info*
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subject Taxon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Result Value as Text	<input type="checkbox"/> Net Non-Tow Info*
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biopart	<input type="checkbox"/> Result Value as Number	<input type="checkbox"/> General Group Info*
<input type="checkbox"/> Field Set	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Units	<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Taxon Pop Census Info*

**Result Search Summary (stormod\_)**

**Number of Results Returned: 1,884**

Search Criteria  
 HUC: 05120109  
 Organization: IL\_EPA

Select 'Back' to modify search parameters and refine your query.  
 Select Batch Processing to generate the report offline based on your current selections.  
 You may customize the content of your report by selecting Data Elements below.

Please enter your email address:

Please specify three characters to prefix your report name:

Batch Processing

<<Back

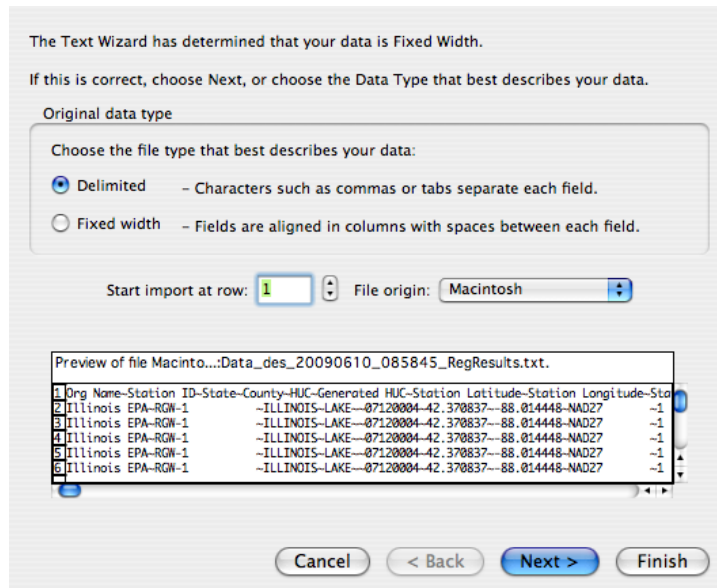
Note: Immediate Batch processing is limited to data requests with results up to 300000. Any Immediate Batch request over the limit will be automatically scheduled as Overnight Batch.  
 Note: Download files will exceed maximum limits for spread sheet applications (ie. EXCEL - Worksheet size: 65,536 Rows.)

When you are ready select "immediate" Batch processing. A message will soon arrive saying your query was accepted. Then you will receive a second email stating your results are ready (unless your file is really big and then it is created overnight).

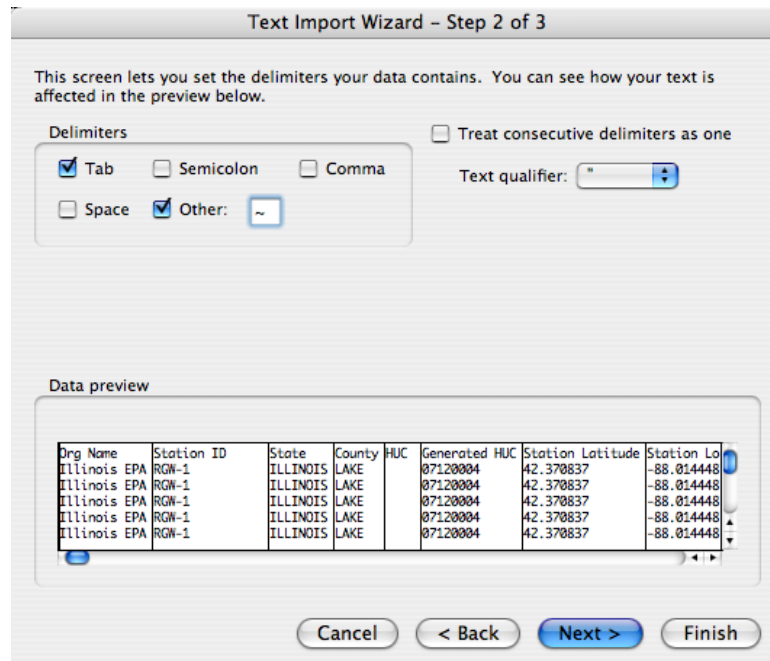
### Obtaining the data and opening the file in Excel.

7. When you get the second email from Storet, Click on the link in the email. When asked whether you want to open or save the file, press save and select where to put it. In our case we will be saving it in our workshop folder on the desk top. We will need to unzip and extract the two files. One file is results the other is metadata. Both files are txt files and will be tilde (~) delimited.

8. Use Excel to find and open the results file (open from what ever directory you saved it in).When opening, select "delimited file" in the text import wizard. Push next.



Now select "other" and type a tilde into the open space "~". Press next. Press finish. You now have an excel spreadsheet.



9. Remember to save as an Excel file, not as a txt file.