

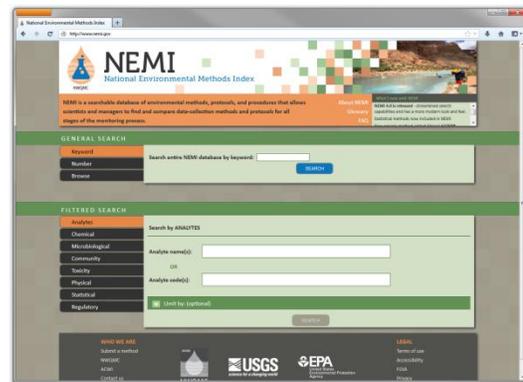


Major upgrade to NEMI (National Environmental Methods Index) released

For almost 11 years, the [National Environmental Methods Index \(NEMI\)](#) has been helping scientists and managers find and compare data-collection methods and protocols for all stages of the monitoring process. Today, a new version of NEMI debuts to make searching for environmental methods, protocols, and procedures even easier. NEMI 4.0 features:

- More powerful and streamlined search functions
- Expanded database of over 1,200 methods, including statistical methods
- New functionality for exploring and narrowing search results
- Improved method record, now with method revision history
- New graphical look and feel
- Advanced data management
- Optimized for internet search engines

Every year, federal and state agencies, industrial entities, academic researchers, private organizations, and local managers expend enormous amounts of time and money to monitor, protect, and restore water resources and watersheds. Similarly, large expenditures are made to analyze for toxic wastes, biological organisms, contaminants, and other pollutants. Selecting the appropriate method can help meet quality and comparability objectives by providing the necessary data for decision making while reducing overall monitoring costs. NEMI has been assisting scientists with environmental method selection for over a decade, and the NEMI 4.0 upgrade focused on enhancing accessibility to a growing database of methods and protocols. It was designed to be flexible and robust enough to meet the growing and changing needs of the environmental monitoring community, and it represents the most comprehensive assemblage of monitoring methods ever available from a single source.



NEMI is a product of the Methods and Data Comparability Board (Methods Board), a partnership of water-quality experts from Federal agencies, States, Tribes, municipalities, industry, and private organizations who all share a commitment to developing water-quality monitoring approaches that facilitate collaboration and comparability among all data-gathering organizations. Both the Methods Board, and its parent organization, the National Water Quality Monitoring Council are co-chaired by USGS and USEPA. The Council and Board are workgroups under the Advisory Committee on Water Information (ACWI), chartered in 1997 to develop a voluntary, integrated, and nationwide water quality monitoring strategy. ACWI member organizations see NEMI as an important element of this strategy.

For more information, visit <http://www.nemi.gov>, or contact Dan Sullivan, NEMI project lead, at djsullivan@usgs.gov

