Health and Science RSS Feeds

Do you need to keep up with developments in your research interests? Are you deluged in e-mail from lists in your subject areas? RSS feeds offer a way to keep current without having to spend a lot of time tracking down information.

What Is an RSS Feed?
RSS is an acronym for Really Simple Syndication, or Rich Site Summary. This technology allows syndication of feeds of information, such as headlines from news sources, journal issue updates, and updates from weblogs (blogs). Feed readers let the user see at a glance when the content of a resource has been updated, without having to visit the site to check.

To use an RSS feed, it is necessary to have a reader, also referred to as an aggregator. There are various types available, and most are free. Web-based readers include Bloglines and My Yahoo. It is also possible to read RSS feeds in the Firefox bookmarks area with Live Bookmarks. Internet Explorer users may subscribe to and view feeds in the browser as well. In addition, many more feed readers are available from the RSS Compendium.

What Does That Button Do?
They are all commonly used examples of links to syndicated feeds. After setting up a reader, the user then subscribes to selected feeds. The method of subscribing depends on the reader used. Feeds will be indicated by various buttons or a statement such as “syndicate this site.”

Selected List of Available Feeds

New Scientist Feeds:
http://www.newscientist.com/feed/feeds

Microsoft Security Updates
http://www.microsoft.com/security/bulletins/default.mspx

Science Daily Newsfeed
http://www.sciencedaily.com/subscribe/newsfeed.htm

New York Times (Health, Science, Technology)

Nature Publishing Group Feeds:
http://www.nonlinear-processes-in-geophysics.net/alerts_and_rss_feeds.html

eFeeds: Feeds from Electronic Journals
http://www.public.iastate.edu/~CYBERSTACKS/eFeeds.htm

MedScape Headlines in RSS (includes nursing and medical specialties)
New England Journal of Medicine
http://content.nejm.org/rss/

Science Online RSS Feeds
http://www.sciencemag.org/rss/index.shtml

Institute of Physics
http://www.iop.org/EJ/help/-topic=rss/

American Association for the Advancement of Science EurekAlert RSS Feeds
http://www.eurekalert.org/rss.php

American Physical Society
http://feeds.aps.org/

**More Information About RSS Feeds**

RSS: What it is, Where to get it, How to make it, How to use it
http://www.interleaves.org/~rteeter/rss.html

RSS Described in Plain English
http://www.commoncraft.com/archives/000528.html

Fagan Finder: All About RSS
http://www.faganfinder.com/search/rss.shtml

Contact Information:
Paula Barnett-Ellis
Health and Sciences Librarian
Houston Cole Library, 9th floor
pbarnett@jsu.edu
256-782-5249

Revised: November 6, 2009