

## Government 2.0

### How the federal government is using social media to connect with citizens

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**RSS Feeds** (Really Simple Syndication) allows you to subscribe to content on blogs and other social media and have it delivered to you through a feed. You can view the feed through a special newsreader or aggregator, or through your browser.

- Department of Education <http://www.ed.gov/news/newsletters/rssnewsfeed.html>
- Food and Drug Administration <http://www.fda.gov/oc/po/firmrecalls/rssRecalls.xml>
- Bureau of Labor Statistics <http://www.bls.gov/feeds/home.htm>

**Webcams** allows users to create their own video which they can upload to the internet. Some webcams allow you to see live footage of a event or location.

- Department of the Interior <http://www.doi.gov/webcam.html>
- National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration South Pole <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/obop/spo/livecamera.html>

**Twitter** allows a user to send a 140 character message to their followers. Tweets can be sent and read with a mobile phone or a web browser.

- National Terror Alert Response System <http://twitter.com/NTARC>
- House of Representatives <http://twitter.com/housefloor>
- Whitehouse <http://twitter.com/whitehouse>

**Youtube** is a popular video sharing web site.

- Library of Congress <http://www.youtube.com/user/LibraryOfCongress>
- NASA <http://www.youtube.com/user/NASAtlevision>
- Department of Agriculture <http://www.youtube.com/user/usda>

**Chat** allows users to communicate in real time using text.

- Usa.gov [http://answers.usa.gov/cgi-bin/gsa\\_ict.cfg/php/enduser/chat.php](http://answers.usa.gov/cgi-bin/gsa_ict.cfg/php/enduser/chat.php)

**Second Life** is a virtual world that allows users to interact with objects and each other.

- National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration <http://slurl.com/secondlife/Meteora/177/161/27/>
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration <http://slurl.com/secondlife/NASA%20CoLab/244/110/23>

**Facebook** is a social media application which allows users to share thoughts, photos, ideas, links, videos and more.

- FBI <http://www.facebook.com/FBI>
- U.S. Army <http://www.facebook.com/USArmy>
- Environmental Protection Agency <http://www.facebook.com/EPA>

**Podcasts** are a series of audio or video presentations that can be downloaded onto portable devices.

- Census Bureau <http://www.census.gov/pubinfo/www/broadcast/radio/profile.xml>
- Consumer Product Safety Commission <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/podcast.xml>
- Smithsonian Institution <http://www.si.edu/podcasts/default.htm>

**Wikis** allow for collaborative editing of content and document sharing.

- USASpending.gov <http://colab.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?WikiHomePage>
- Office of the Director of National Intelligence (private URL)

**Flickr** lets users share their photos, allowing for addition of tags and comments.

- USA.gov <http://www.flickr.com/groups/usagov/>
- Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon [http://www.flickr.com/photos/solar\\_decathlon/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/solar_decathlon/)
- Library of Congress [http://www.flickr.com/photos/library\\_of\\_congress](http://www.flickr.com/photos/library_of_congress)

**Blogs** contain self-published material, presented in a reverse chronological order. Items can be tagged with keywords and visitors can leave comments. Blogs can be accessed through an RSS feed or a web browser.

- Department of Defense <http://www.dodlive.mil/>
- Whitehouse <http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/>
- Department of Agriculture <http://www.usda.gov/blog/usda>

**Listservs** are subject-oriented mailing lists sent to a particular audience. Members can post a message that will be seen by the entire group.

- Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP-L) <http://listserv.access.gpo.gov/archives/gpo-fdlp-l.html>
- Federal Reference Librarians FEDREF-L <http://www.loc.gov/flicc/listsrvs.html>

## Other Resources

For the Common Good: The Library of Congress Flickr Pilot Project

[http://www.loc.gov/rr/print/flickr\\_report\\_final.pdf](http://www.loc.gov/rr/print/flickr_report_final.pdf)

Connect with USA.gov <http://www.usa.gov/Topics/Multimedia.shtml> A list of government entities that participate in social media such as blogs, Facebook, Twitter and RSS feeds.

Matrix of Web 2.0 Technology and Government

[http://www.usa.gov/webcontent/documents/Web\\_Technology\\_Matrix.pdf](http://www.usa.gov/webcontent/documents/Web_Technology_Matrix.pdf)

Examples of Agencies Using Online Content and Technology to Achieve Mission and Goals

<http://www.usa.gov/webcontent/documents/ExamplesofUsingTechnologyandContenttoAchieve%20AgAgen.pdf>

The Feed by Nextgov <http://www.nextgov.com/thefeed/> A twitter feed of all government agencies currently using Twitter.

TweetCongress <http://tweetcongress.org/> A collection of tweets from members of congress who belong to Twitter.