

# RSS: What's in it for science libraries

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# What is RSS?

- Really Simple Syndication
- A form of XML that enables content delivery over the internet
- Examples of content:
  - News
  - Journal TOCs
  - Links to articles, web sites
  - Library new acquisitions (e.g. [LPI Library](#))

# Advantages

- Reduce e-mail traffic
- More immediate updates (don't have to keep checking a web site)
- “automated web surfing” (Dave Winer)

# How does one use RSS?

- Get a newsreader
  - [NetNewsWire\(Lite\)](#) (MacOSX), [Amphetadesk](#) (PC), [Rocketinfo](#) (web-based)
  - Both Desktop and browser-based applications
  - Tell newsreader to subscribe to certain “feeds”
  - Click on the “orange” button (XML) 



Next Unread Open in Browser Show Info Subscribe Unsubscribe Show Sites Draw

299 subscriptions, 368 headlines unread

Subscriptions

- FOS News
- Wired News
- Library Stuff
- ResourceShelf
- ResearchBuzz
- The (sci-tech)
- The Shifted
- librarian.net
- New York

New York Times: Technology headlines

- ... Patents as Economic Indicator
- ... Silicon Valley Seeks Peace in War With Microsoft
- ... Obstacles to E-Procurement
- ... Grooves of a Fingertip Yield All Your Passwords
- ... When Your Files Go Astray, Put a Speedy Sleuth to Work
- ... Frozen in Fear? Mighty Mouse to the Rescue
- ... Scooch Over, Screwdriver: A Venerable Knife Gains a Chip
- ... Collapsible Comfort in a Backyard Eden
- ... Blog-Bleary? Try (What Else?) a Blog
- ... Braving Bullying Hecklers, Simulants Run for President
- ... Intel Considers Options Change

## Physics mug shots

351 physicists are represented in this picture gallery collected from multiple sources. (thanks to the [NSDL Scout Report for Physical Sciences](#))

# Posted by [Garrett Eastman](#) on 3/18/04; 6:18:39 PM - [Comments \[0\]](#)  
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# Who syndicates via RSS?

- Newspapers
  - [New York Times](#)
  - [Boston Globe](#)
    - News services
      - [ScienceDaily](#)
      - [EurekAlert](#)
      - [Nature Science Update](#)
      - [Yahoo](#)

# Journal contents via RSS

- [Institute of Physics](#) (IoP)
- [Science's Next Wave](#) (Headlines and Blog)
- [AIP Physics Today](#)
- [BioMedCentral](#)

# Library-oriented

- [ResourceShelf](#)
- [Peter Scott](#)
- [Shifted Librarian](#)
- [LISNews](#)

# Weblogs

- Syndicate content via XML/RSS
- Report library news, organization news, topical(discipline-related) news
- Point to new information sources, articles, papers

# Weblogs, cont.

- Organization centered ([Rowland](#), [GSU](#) libraries)
- Science Libraries and Librarianship
  - [Englib](#)
  - [The \(sci-tech\) Library Question](#)
  - [Confessions of a Science Librarian](#)

Discipline centered, topical

[Psychscape](#)

[Kept-Up Academic Librarian](#)

[Open Access News](#)

# Where do you find feeds

- Search utilities

[Feedster](#)

[Technorati](#)

[NewsisFree](#)

[Syndic8](#)

[myRSS](#)

# Where can we go?

- Open access, institutional repositories
- Need for descriptors, customization of feeds
- How can it work with a proxy server
- RSS is evolving

# Selected webliography

- Baumgart, J. [An Introduction to RSS feeds](#), News Library News (February 2004)
- Cohen, S. [RSS for non-techie librarians](#), LLRX.com
- Richardson, W. [Blogging and RSS - the “What’s It?” and “How to” of Powerful New Web Tools for Educators](#), Multimedia & Internet at Schools (Jan./Feb. 2004)
- [RSS 2.0 Specification](#)
- Tennant, R. [Feed your head](#), Library Journal, May 15, 2003.