

Using Bloglines to Stay Informed (It's Easy!)

By Theresa Agostinelli

Definitions for commonly used terms:

Blog- (short for web log) Noun- A Web site consisting of a series of entries arranged in reverse-chronological order. Verb- the act of creating and updated a blog.

Blogger- a person that blogs.

RSS (short for RDF Site Summary, or Rich Site Summary, or Really Simple Syndication). RSS has many uses. It's most popular use is to allow users to subscribe to Web content with RSS feeds, keeping track of information from multiple Web sources easily through the use of an aggregator (RSS reader).

RSS Feed or Webfeed: files that can show titles and descriptions with hyperlinks to Web content.

Aggregator (or RSS Reader) - Blog reading software, used to subscribe to and read RSS feeds. Bloglines is an example of a free, user-friendly, Web-based aggregator.

Blogroll- A list of blogs that a blogger subscribes to.

Subscribing to Bloglines

1. Go to www.bloglines.com
2. Click on the "Sign up now. It's free!" link in the middle of the page.
3. Enter an e-mail address, password, and time zone.
4. Click on the gray "Register" box.
5. Check your e-mail account for the confirmation e-mail. Click on the confirmation link.
6. You are now subscribed!

Logging In

1. Go to www.bloglines.com
2. Click on the gray "My Feeds" tab on the upper-left part of the screen.
3. Enter your e-mail address and password
4. Click the gray "Log In" button.

Using Bloglines to subscribe to RSS feeds

Sites that provide RSS feeds usually include an icon like this somewhere on the screen:



There are a few ways to sign up for an RSS feed in Bloglines

1. Manually Enter URL
 - A. Log on to Bloglines www.bloglines.com
 - B. Click the "Add" link on the upper-left side of the screen
 - C. Enter the Web site URL in the white box next to the words "Blog or Feed URL."
 - D. Click the gray "Subscribe" button.
2. Bloglines Easy Subscribe Button (using Internet Explorer)

- A. Log on to Bloglines www.bloglines.com
- B. Click on "Easy Subscribe Bookmarklet." This is located on the left side of the screen under "Extras."
- C. Right click on the blue "Sub with Bloglines" button and choose "Add to Favorites."
- D. Click on "Favorites" on your toolbar and choose "Organize Favorites"
- E. Highlight "Sub with Bloglines" and choose "Move to Folder." Highlight the "Links" folder. This will add the "Sub with Bloglines" shortcut to your toolbar.
- F. Click on the "Sub with Bloglines" button to subscribe to a blog that you are currently visiting.

3. Search for Blogs in Bloglines

- A. Log on to Bloglines www.bloglines.com
- B. Enter your search terms in the search box on the upper-right part of the screen.
- C. Click "Subscribe" next to the blog title.

E-mailing RSS Feeds to Friends

1. Click on the links for "E-mail" underneath the RSS feed that you want to share.
2. Enter an e-mail address, a brief message, and click the gray "Send E-Mail" box.

Saving RSS Feeds to Your Clippings Folder

1. Under the RSS feed that you want to save, click on "Clip/Blog This."
2. Click the gray "Save to" box on the bottom of the screen to the left of the words "Clippings Folder."
3. You should see a message that says "This item has been clipped."
4. Click "Close Window."
5. To view clipping, click on the gray "Clippings" tab on the top-left part of the screen (you must be logged in to do this.)

Blog Links to Get You Started

Directories of General Blogs

Blogwise

[www.blogwise](http://www.blogwise.com)

Technorati

<http://www.technorati.com>

Yahoo! Weblogs

http://dir.yahoo.com/Computers_and_Internet/Internet/World_Wide_Web/Weblogs/

Library Weblogs and Sites with RSS Content

Block, Marylaine. Neat New Stuff on the Net- Weekly Review of New Sites

<http://www.marylaine.com/neatnew.html>

Herzog, Susan. BlogBib: Select Librarian Library Blogs

<http://blog-bib-liblogs.blogspot.com/>

Internet Public Library Lists of Blogs and blog-related sites

<http://www.ipl.org/div/blogs/>

Levine, Jenny. The Shifted Librarian.

<http://theshiftedlibrarian.com/>

Librarian's Index to the Internet

<http://www.lii.org>

Library Journal

www.libraryjournal.com

LISJobs.com

<http://lisjobs.com/>

LISNews

<http://www.lisnews.com/>

Price, Gary Resource Shelf.

<http://www.resourceshelf.com/>

West, Jessamyn. Librarian.net

<http://www.librarian.net>