

PADEP Announces Use of PennEnviroScreen in Permit Review Processes

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On June 2, 2025, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) [announced](#) in its *Environmental Justice Newsletter* that its screening and mapping tool, [PennEnviroScreen](#), is now fully integrated within PADEP permitting processes. The tool analyzes more than 30 environmental, health, and socioeconomic criteria to identify environmental justice communities, including location of pollution sources, air quality data, and poverty.

PADEP staff utilize the tool during the permit review process to determine where greater community engagement may be necessary. PADEP has also created a user guide for the public to assist use and understanding of the tool. See PADEP, [“PennEnviroScreen At A Glance”](#) (Sept. 2024). In September 2023, PADEP published its [PennEnviroScreen Methodology Documentation](#) to explain its rationale for the use of the tool to implement PADEP’s Environmental Justice Policy. PADEP intends to update the data source information used in PennEnviroScreen on an annual basis.

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