

## **Dissemination of Beach Water Quality and Notification Nationwide**

Tim Gormley

### *BIOGRAPHY*

Tim Gormley is the Senior Vice President of Earth 911 and has been with the organization since 1996. With 18+ years of experience in the environmental and technical fields, he provides broad perspective on corporate environmental leadership and industry program development. Prior to joining Earth 911, he coordinated environmental and policy programs for the U.S. Postal Service in the western United States. Mr. Gormley has a B.S. degree in Industrial Engineering and a Masters of Environmental Management and Policy. Mr. Gormley resides in Phoenix, Arizona with his wife and three children. He is actively involved in U.S. Amateur Swimming and other community programs.

### *ABSTRACT*

The Earth 911 Beach Reporting System delivers national, real-time recreational water quality testing results to the public through Earth 911 ([www.EARTH911.org](http://www.EARTH911.org) / 1-800-CLEANUP). It is a simple, innovative and reliable solution to the BEACH legislation of October 2000, requiring public notification of beach water monitoring and information from all coastal and Great Lake states. In partnership with OCEANA, local government agencies and coastal communities, Earth 911 has implemented an effective and unprecedented medium to communicate health information to beach-goers. Giving agencies that specialize in water monitoring access to a database through a secure Internet interface ensures that these industry experts can fulfill their duties as identified in the BEACH legislation, namely relaying accurate monitoring reports in real-time to the public. As a clearinghouse, Earth 911 delivers with expertise this valuable and deficient information. This and other public notification services are provided using state-of-the-art computer and telephone systems through this well-known public service.

Online or through a bilingual hotline, the public enters a ZIP Code to find local environmental information and resources. Coastal communities have an additional section for the Beach Reporting System, which, in addition to providing water conditions and beach closures, educates the public about the effects of water pollution on human health, business and the environment and with proactive solutions to prevent water pollution.

The Beach Reporting System will expand to report on other recreational waterways as it grows beyond its current 434 reporting stations. Earth 911 is the communication resource network for empowering people to part of the environmental solution.