

Your Job: Director of Illinois Department of Resources

Illinois Resources

Illinois is one of the richest states in the United States in terms of natural resources. This list includes major Illinois products that use natural resources.

Agriculture: corn (maize), soybeans, wheat, hay, milk, eggs, pigs, cattle, calves.
Mined: bituminous coal, crude petroleum, stone, sand and gravel, cement

(Source: Compton's encyclopedia)

Research and Report

Based on this list, what are the natural resources of the state?

Get a map of Illinois that shows the location of natural resources.
In which parts of the state are those resources located?

What news do you find in the newspaper about conditions and changes that affect the businesses that use these resources?

The Illinois Department of Energy and Natural Resources helps to manage Illinois resources. It also helps to reduce pollution. What other jobs would that agency have?

Community Connection

The Illinois Department of Conservation is part of the state government that conserves Illinois natural resources. There are 403,210 acres of public lands such as state parks and nature preserves in Illinois. What public land is in your community's region? What could happen to that land if the state had no Department of Conservation?