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404 Reasons to Use Perma.cc

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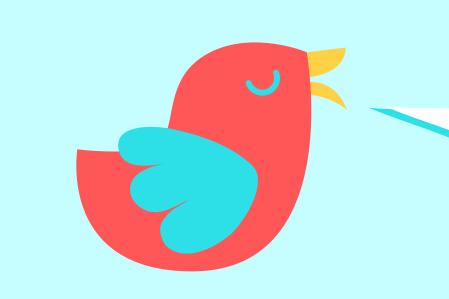
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404 Reasons to Use Perma.cc Angela Hackstadt ahackstadt@albany.edu University at Albany, SUNY

70% of URLs cited by Harvard Law Review, Harvard Journal of Law & Technology, and Harvard Human Rights Review suffer from link rot or content drift (Zittrain et al, 2013).

50% of URLs cited by United States Supreme Court cases suffer from link rot or content drift (Zittrain et al, 2013).

76% of URLs cited in Science, Technology, Mathematics (STM) articles suffer from content drift (Jones et al, 2016).



Scholars in all disciplines cite open web sources like blogs, non-profit websites, and government information. How do authors protect citation integrity when blogs are abandoned, organizations update content, or administrations change hands?

One in five URLs cited by STM research suffer from link rot (Klein et al, 2014).

61% of URLs to public health information published by NGOs suffer from link rot or content drift (Crowe & Hodge, 2006).

Government information is not immune to link rot or content drift. In a study of food waste legislation scholarship, 24% of URLs to government sources suffer from link rot (Hackstadt, 2019). One notable example of content drift is demonstrated below.

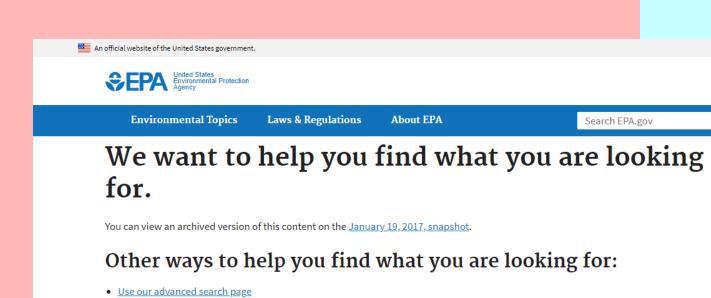
Overview of Greenhouse Gases, by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is cited by two authors writing about U.S. food waste legislation:

"Methane accounted for approximately ten percent of all greenhouse gas emissions from human activities in 2010," (Haley, 2013)

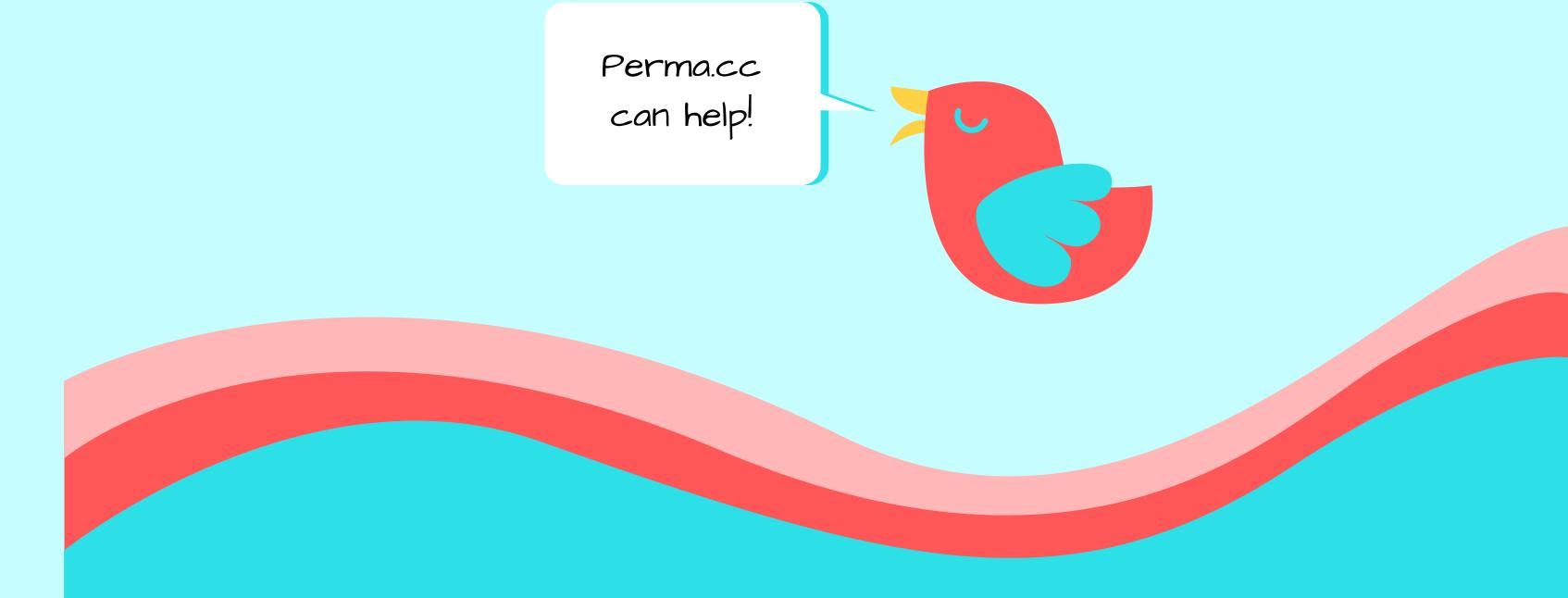
"Methane is a greenhouse gas twenty times more damaging to the atmosphere than carbon dioxide," (Vaz, 2015)

The cited URL redirects to this page, as of May 1, 2019

easily with folders

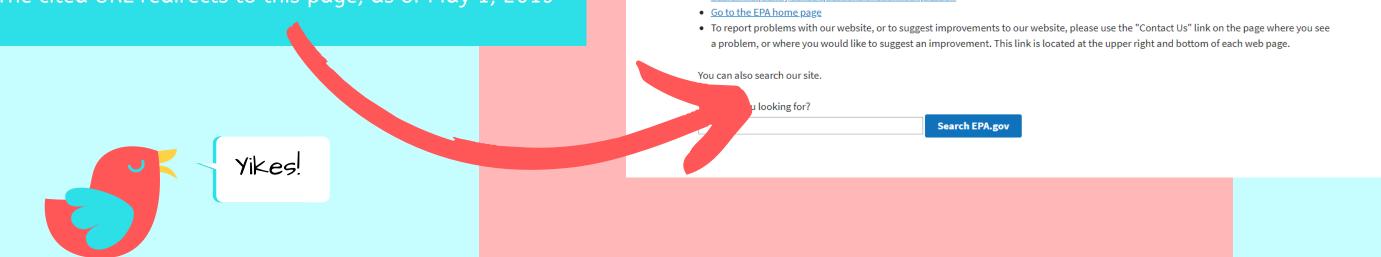


Browse our curated A-Z index of terms and topics or see our automated list of website topics

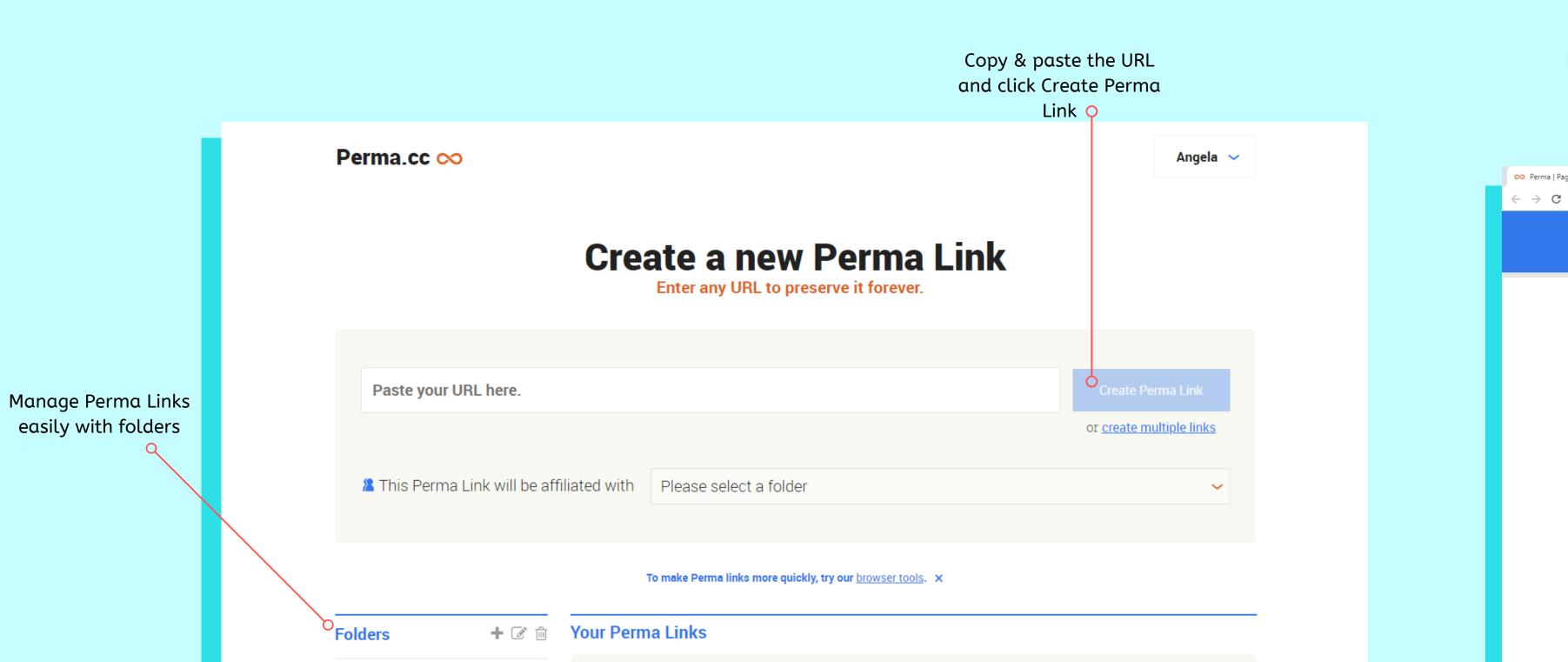


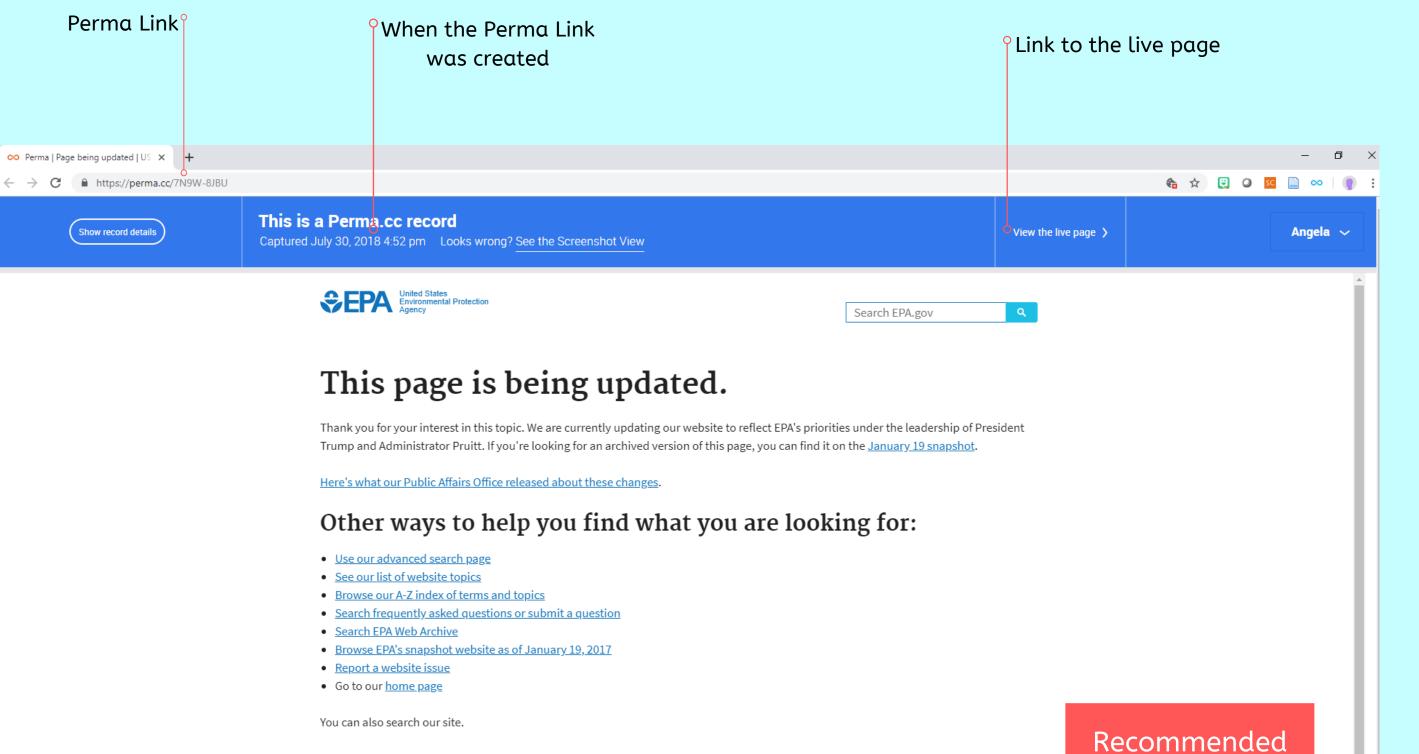
Perma.cc is a service developed by Harvard's Library Innovation Lab to preserve web-based content cited by scholars and the courts. Unlike archiving techniques that rely on random captures of web content, Perma.cc creates a permanent link at the request of a user, ensuring future scholars can review a source as it appeared at the time of citation.

- If the page is updated later, the Perma Linked version is preserved. There's no need to worry about content drift!
- Perma Linked web pages can be viewed later even if the original

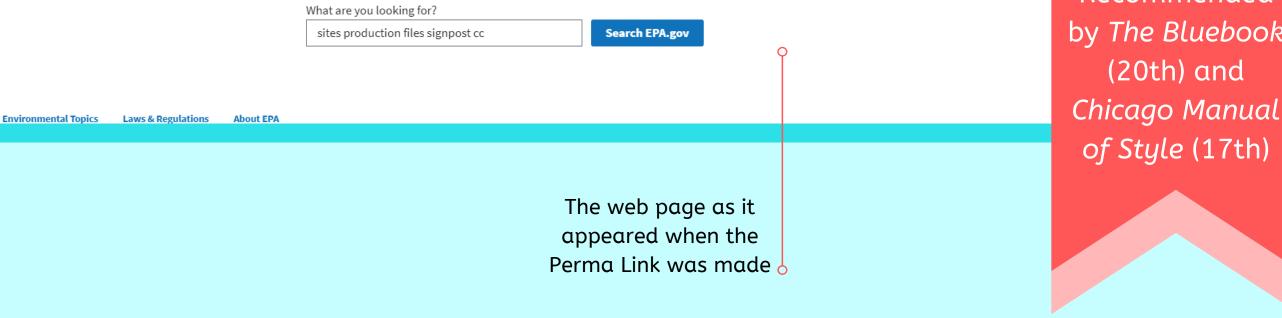


URL breaks. No more link rot!





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Sounds

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