

How to Find Historical Proof of Residency for Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) Claims in Missouri



♡ *“Your story, your health, and your family's history deserve recognition. Even if proof feels out of reach, there are resources, records, and allies ready to help. No one should navigate this alone — and with this guide, you won't have to.”*

Impacted Areas

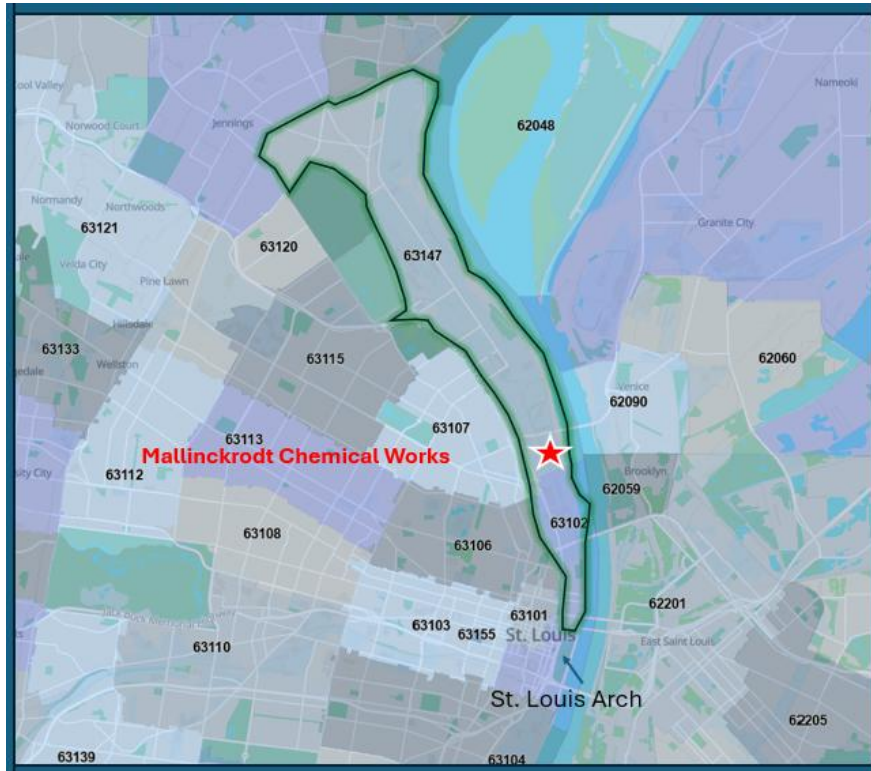
The July 2025 expansion of the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) brings long-overdue recognition to numerous Missouri communities impacted by radioactive contamination.

Many of these areas share ZIP codes newly deemed eligible under RECA due to their proximity to radioactive waste sites, such as Coldwater Creek, West Lake Landfill, and historical transport routes from the Downtown St. Louis Mallinckrodt and Weldon Spring uranium processing sites.

While some locations are confirmed in legislative documents, others remain under review—highlighting the urgency for continued advocacy, documentation, and community mobilization to ensure full inclusion and support.

ST. LOUIS CITY

Contamination in St. Louis City is primarily linked to the Mallinckrodt Chemical Works. The RECA expansion includes ZIP codes covering the North Riverfront and Near North Riverfront neighborhoods.



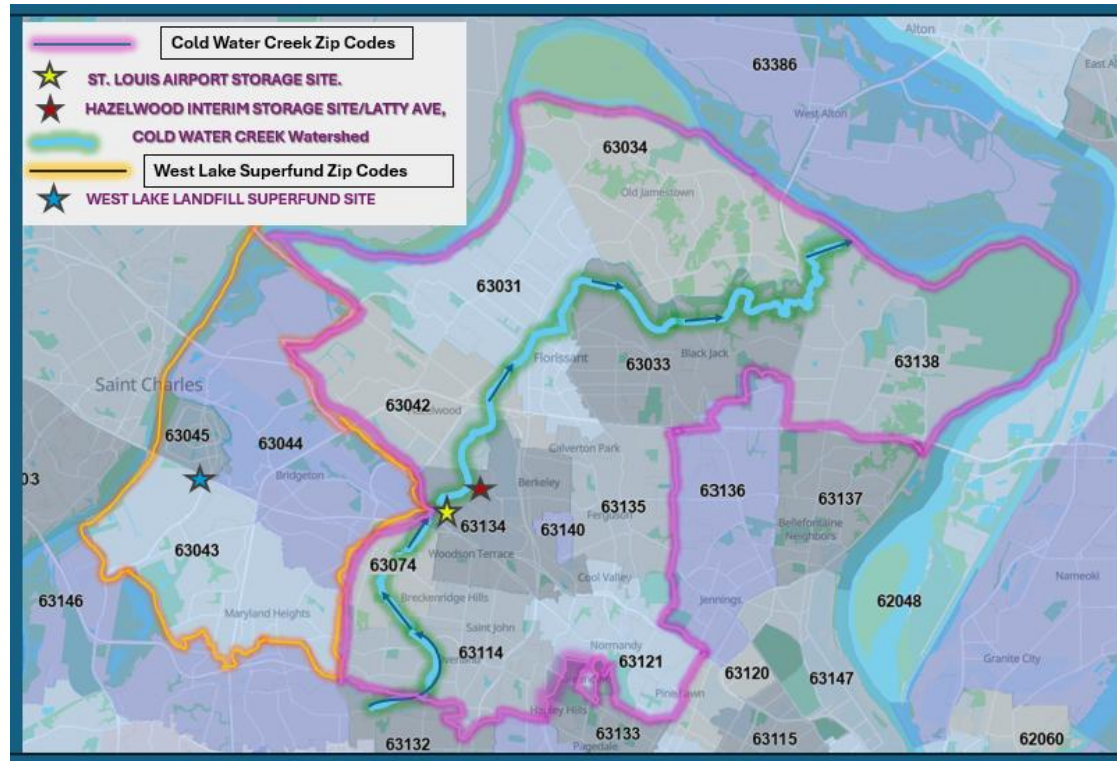
City of St. Louis

ZIP Codes: 63102, 63147

Contamination Site: *Mallinckrodt Chemical Works*

ST. LOUIS COUNTY

Many communities in St. Louis County were impacted by waste from sites like Coldwater Creek and the West Lake Landfill. The expansion covers numerous municipalities throughout the county.



 St. Louis County

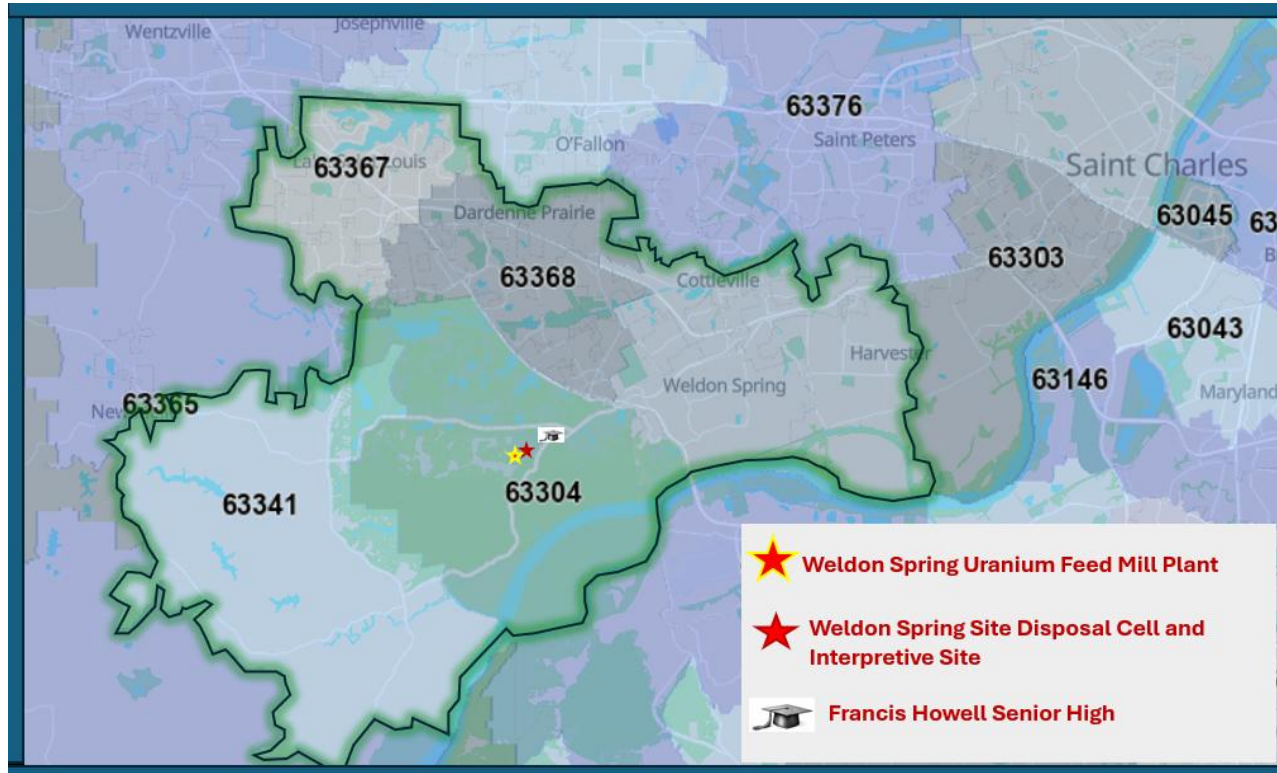
ZIP Codes:

63031, 63033, 63034, 63042, 63043, 63044, 63045, 63074,
63114, 63121, 63134, 63135, 63138, 63140, 63145

Contamination Sites: Coldwater Creek, Latty Avenue, West Lake Landfill

ST. CHARLES COUNTY

The Weldon Spring site is the primary source of contamination affecting St. Charles County. Several ZIP codes in and around the area are now included under RECA.

 St. Charles County

ZIP Codes: 63304, 63341, 63367, 63368

Contamination Site: *Weldon Spring Site*

 LEUKEMIA	 CANCERS & CONDITIONS
All types except Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia	(Onset must be ≥ 2 years post-exposure)
To qualify:	Blood & Lymphatic Disorders
Exposure must have begun after age 20	Multiple Myeloma
The disease onset must be ≥ 2 years after first exposure	Lymphoma (<i>excluding Hodgkin's Disease</i>)

Primary Cancers by Organ/System (Onset must be 2 years post-exposure)	
Bile Ducts	Lung
Bone	Ovary
Brain	Pancreas
Breast (<i>Male & Female</i>)	Pharynx
Colon	Salivary Gland
Esophagus	Small Intestine
Gall Bladder	Stomach
Kidney (<i>Renal</i>)	Thyroid
Liver (<i>excluding cirrhosis or Hepatitis B</i>)	Urinary Bladder

 Eligibility Reminder (Onset must be ≥ 2 years post-exposure)

These diseases are subject to **exposure and onset timing requirements** defined in RECA.

Claimants must submit:

Medical documentation confirming diagnosis.

Proof of physical presence in a RECA-eligible ZIP code for at least two years after January 1, 1949

-  Genealogy Platforms to Locate Residency, School & Employment Proof

Claimants can search for evidence of physical presence in RECA-eligible ZIP codes using trusted genealogy and history tools.



VERY IMPORTANT NOTICE



BEWARE of Predatory Law Firms and Scams

Some entities are already trying to exploit Missouri residents by offering unnecessary claim assistance. These scams may try to get you to sign up or pay for services you do NOT need.



The RECA Program Was Designed to Be Accessible

You do not need a law firm or paid service to apply for compensation. The process is being streamlined so individuals and families can apply on their own with support from trusted sources.



Stay Alert— Stay Empowered



Official Oversight Is in Place

We're working directly with Missouri Attorney General Andrew Bailey and other state and federal agencies to track these scams and protect our communities. Coordination is already underway to prevent exploitation.



Help Is Coming from Trusted Resources

Once the Department of Justice begins accepting applications, there will be:

- A full list of legitimate support organizations
- Application guides and walkthroughs
- Trusted local and advocacy groups ready to assist—all free of charge

Genealogy Tools & Techniques

 Use both maiden and married names.

Cross-check ZIP codes with timeframes after January 1, 1949

 Platform – See Missouri Library & Archive Resources section below	 What You Can Find
Ancestry Library Edition	Census records, city directories, school yearbooks, employment ads (<i>library access</i>)
FamilySearch.org	Church records, school logs, birth & baptism registers (<i>free online</i>)
HeritageQuest	Census data, local history volumes (<i>accessible with library card</i>)
Fold3	Military and civil service documents (<i>library access</i>)
Newspapers.com	Mentions of school events, job promotions, obituaries (<i>subscription-based</i>)
FindAGrave.com	Burial locations & family connections (<i>supporting survivor claims</i>)



Note that library access often includes free Ancestry and Fold3 subscriptions.

No library card needed for some digital archives
Residents of St. Louis City and St. Charles County can obtain a St. Louis County Library card.
<i>You'll need to visit a St. Louis County Library branch in person with a photo ID and proof of current address. If you don't have a photo ID, you can still get a card with other official documentation, but it will have some limitations.</i>
To get a full-access card (valid for two years):
Visit a branch: Go to any St. Louis County Library branch.
Provide identification: Bring a photo ID (like a driver's license) and proof of your current address (like a utility bill).
If you don't have a photo ID:
Bring other documentation:
You can still get a card with other official documents that show your name, but it will be a one-year card with limited borrowing privileges.

LDS Church Records & Family History Centers

- o Free, robust genealogy platform
- o Includes:
 - o Church census records
 - o Baptismal & burial data
 - o Membership logs & missionary files
 - o Cemetery maps and digitized family group sheets



You don't need to be a church member to use FamilySearch.



📍 Missouri Family History Centers

- o Locations in St. Louis City, St. Charles, and across Missouri
- o Provide **free access to subscription databases** like Ancestry and Fold3
- o On-site volunteers can help interpret older records and scan paper materials
- 👤 **Use** both maiden and married names when tracking deceased individuals.

If you are trying to obtain medical records from Normandy Osteopathic Hospital through Missouri Baptist Medical Center's Medical Records Department in St. Louis County, Missouri, you will need to contact the Missouri Baptist Medical Center Health Information Management department.

Phone Number: 314-996-5383

Fax Number: 314-996-4410

Physical Address:

Missouri Baptist Medical Center

Attn: Health Information Management

3015 N. Ballas Rd.

St. Louis, MO 63131

File a Claim

The Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) program is administered by the Department of Justice (DOJ).

Note that it will take time for the DOJ to get the newly covered areas added to the system. There is nowhere to apply as of now (July 6, 2025). We will update this information as soon as it becomes available.

While we are in this waiting period, start getting your documentation in order.

- You are going to need medical records that prove you or your loved one has/had contracted one of the approved cancers on the list.
- You will also need to prove that you or your loved one lived, worked, or went to school in one of the approved ZIP codes for a period of two years from 1949 to present.

What is an Affidavit and how is it used:

What Is a Sworn Affidavit?

A sworn affidavit is a **written statement of facts** voluntarily made by an individual (the affiant) and **signed under oath** in the presence of a notary public. It can be used to support RECA claims when formal documentation is unavailable.

How to Create One

1. Write the affidavit:

Include your full name, date of birth, address, and contact info.

Clearly state the facts (e.g., “I attended school at XYZ Elementary in ZIP 63138 from 1952–1955”)

Avoid opinions — stick to factual observations.

Add any supporting details (e.g., names of neighbors, teachers, landmarks)

2. Sign in front of a notary:

Bring a valid photo ID.

Visit a notary at a bank, library, courthouse, or shipping center (e.g., FedEx Office)

Sign the affidavit in the notary’s presence.

The notary will stamp and sign the document, making it legally binding.

 *Missouri law requires affidavits to be notarized to be considered valid for legal purposes.*

Finding a Notary in Missouri

Local banks and credit unions often provide free notary services to members.

Libraries like St. Louis County Library and St. Charles City-County Library offer notary services.

Courthouses and **city halls** may have notaries on staff.

[Use Missouri’s Notary Directory to search for commissioned notaries statewide.](#)

(<https://s1.sos.mo.gov/business/notary>)

Tips for Claimants

You can ask **neighbors, classmates, coworkers, or family members** to write affidavits confirming your presence in a RECA ZIP code.

Each affidavit must be **signed and notarized individually**.

Keep copies of all affidavits for your records.

[If you need help drafting one, templates are available at US Legal Forms \(https://www.uslegalforms.com/forms/mo-spec-00407/affidavit-general\)](https://www.uslegalforms.com/forms/mo-spec-00407/affidavit-general)

Affidavit Writing Tips

Use factual statements only — avoid guesses or emotions

Include full names, addresses, and relevant dates

List your relationship to the claimant if applicable

Be as specific as possible — add locations and ZIP codes

Notary Checklist

Bring valid photo ID

Do not sign the affidavit until you're in front of the notary

Ask for a stamp and signature from the notary

Keep a photocopy for your records

Sworn Affidavit Templates for RECA Documentation

These templates are tailored for the most common sources of eyewitness support:

Affidavit from a Neighbor or Friend

I, [Full Name], declare that I personally knew [Claimant's Name] and recall that they lived at [Address] in [ZIP Code] from approximately [Year] to [Year]. I resided nearby during this time and observed their daily presence.

I affirm this statement is true to the best of my knowledge.

 Use this when:

Someone lived near the claimant and can attest to their residence.



Affidavit from a Former Classmate or School Peer

I, [Full Name], attended [School Name] with [Claimant's Name] in [ZIP Code] from [Year] to [Year]. We were in the same grade and participated in school activities together. I remember them living nearby and attending classes regularly.

I affirm this statement is true to the best of my knowledge.



Use this to verify:

School attendance when no transcript exists.



Affidavit from a Coworker or Employer

I, [Full Name], worked with [Claimant's Name] at [Company Name] located at [Address] in [ZIP Code] between [Year] and [Year]. I recall that [Claimant's Name] held the position of [Job Title] and was present at the workplace consistently during that time.

I affirm this statement is true to the best of my knowledge.



Use this to show:

Employment or work-related presence in an affected ZIP code.



Affidavit from a Family Member or Survivor

I, [Full Name], am the [Relationship] of [Claimant's Name], who lived at [Address] in [ZIP Code] from [Year] to [Year]. I shared the residence with them and witnessed their presence in this community during the qualifying period.

I affirm this statement is true to the best of my knowledge.



Use this if:

You're filing as a beneficiary or can confirm residence directly.

Resource Name	About	URL
RECA DOJ Overview	The Department is reviewing the amendments to RECA and will provide additional guidance as it becomes available. <i>Claimants are encouraged to wait until additional guidance is published before filing a claim.</i>	https://www.justice.gov/civil/common/reca
Missouri Secretary of State – Digital Heritage	Death Certificates, Coroner’s Inquests, School Records, Church Docs - 9+ million searchable records (See Genealogy Tools Tab for more information)	https://www.sos.mo.gov/mdh
Missouri Notary Directory	he Missouri Notary Directory is managed by the Missouri Secretary of State's Office and provides several key services and resources for notaries and the public	https://s1.sos.mo.gov/business/notary
Ancestry Library Edition	Census records, directories, military databases - Extensive St. Louis and rural county entries - Use filters: location, school directories, 1940–1970	https://www.slpl.org/resources/genealogy
FamilySearch.org	Church census, Baptismal & Burial Data, Family Group Sheets - Free access, on-site volunteers (See Genealogy Tools Tab for more information)	https://www.familysearch.org/en/united-states/
FamilySearch Missouri Online Records	a comprehensive guide to digitized and indexed genealogical records related to Missouri. It’s part of the FamilySearch Wiki and is especially helpful for both beginners and experienced researchers.	https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Missouri_Online_Genealogy_Records
Fold3	Cold War and military documents - Defense worker logs and uranium history - Search by employer, service branch	https://www.fold3.com/

Resource Name	About	URL
Newspapers.com	Largest online archive of historical newspapers, offering over 1 billion digitized pages from more than 28,900 newspapers across the United States and beyond - Birth, marriage, and death notices Obituaries - Local and national news - Social columns and historical events - Powerful search tools: Search by name, keyword, date, or location. Clipping tool: Save and organize articles or entire pages.	https://www.newspapers.com/
FindAGrave.com	Genealogy and Historical Value - Headstones often include: Full names, Birth and death dates, Family relationships, Military service, Religious or cultural symbols - These details can be crucial for building family trees or verifying historical records	https://www.findagrave.com/
National Archives	Census Records (1790–1950) - Military Service Records	https://www.archives.gov/
St. Louis Public Library Genealogy Portal	Ancestry, Fold3, HeritageQuest, Local Newspapers, Obituary Indexes - In-library computers for full access (See Genealogy Tools Tab for more information)	https://www.slpl.org/resources/genealogy
St. Louis County Library Genealogy Department	Yearbooks, Directories, Burial Records, Historical Maps (See Genealogy Tools Tab for more information)	https://www.slcl.org/research-learn/genealogy
SLCL Recollect Digital Archives	Digital archives and Memory Lab (See Genealogy Tools Tab for more information)	https://slcl.recollectcms.com/nodes/view/988
USGenWeb Missouri Archives	Cemetery transcriptions; Obituaries and death notices; Land deeds and wills; School and church records; County directories and maps	https://mogenweb.org/
St. Louis Genealogical Society	Genealogy education, research tools, and member databases - Access Info: Public resources, member-only content, local record indexes	https://stlgs.org/

Resource Name	About	URL
Missouri History Museum	Missouri history exhibits, online archives, research support - Access Info: On-site access in Forest Park, plus digital collections online	https://mohistory.org/research
Facebook Genealogy Directory	Cyndi's List is a free, categorized directory of over 300,000 genealogy links. It doesn't host records itself, but it points you to the best places to find them. - Cyndi's List links to Facebook groups, forums, and mailing lists. These are great for asking questions and connecting with others researching the same surnames or regions.	https://cyndislist.com/facebook
Missouri Genealogy Portal	Statewide collaboration of genealogists, societies, and researchers dedicated to Missouri family history	https://missourigenealogy.org/
State Historical Society of Missouri Genealogy Guide	Offers a comprehensive Genealogy and Family History Research Guide designed to help both beginners and experienced researchers explore their Missouri roots. Here's a summary of what it includes: Newspapers (over 4k records), City directories, Family and church histories, Historical maps and visual documentation of Missouri communities - Contact SHSMO staff for help with specific research questions	https://shsmo.org/research/guides/genealogy
Archdiocese of St. Louis Office of Archives and Records	an online tool provided by the Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of St. Louis. It allows users to locate the burial sites of loved ones across several Catholic cemeteries in the region. Searchable Burial Records: Access to over 500,000 burial records from multiple cemeteries. The Office of Archives and Records is the official repository for the historical records of: Parishes - Schools: Services Include: Sacramental Records: Baptism, confirmation, marriage, and burial (available by request) - School Transcripts: For closed Catholic schools Genealogy Research Support - Access to Historical Collections: Including newspapers, parish histories, and clergy files	Archdiocesan Archives – Archdiocese of St. Louis

Resource Name	About	URL
St. Louis County Recorder of Deeds	The St. Louis County Recorder of Deeds is responsible for maintaining and providing access to a wide range of official public records. Here's an overview of what they offer: Marriage Licenses: Issuance and record-keeping - Real Estate Records: Including deeds, mortgages, liens, and plats Personal Property Records - Subdivision Plats - Federal and State Tax Liens - Other Legal Instruments: Affecting property or ownership - All recorded documents are available for public research.	https://stlouiscountymo.gov/st-louis-county-departments/revenue/recorder-of-deeds/
St. Louis County Recorder of Deeds - Deed Copy Order Form	You can request copies of deeds and other documents using their Deed Copy Order Form. Costs vary depending on the number of pages and whether certification is needed.	https://ms.stlouiscountymo.gov/st-louis-county-departments/revenue/recorder-of-deeds/deed-copy-order-form/
St. Louis County Recorder of Deeds - Online Deed Search	Researching real estate transactions and ownership history.	https://stlouiscountymo.gov/st-louis-county-departments/revenue/recorder-of-deeds/deed-search/
St. Charles County Recorder of Deeds	Land Records: Deeds, mortgages, liens, plats, and surveys	https://www.sccmo.org/511/Recorder-of-Deeds
St. Louis County Parcel Viewer	An online tool provided by the St. Louis County Assessor's Office that allows users to search and view detailed property information. Key Features - Search by: Address - Locator number (parcel ID) Owner name - View property details: Assessed value - Property characteristics (e.g., square footage, year built) - Tax history - Sales history - Parcel maps and aerial imagery (1937-2024)	https://stlcogis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=e70f8f1814a34cd7bf8f6766bd950c68

Resource Name	About	URL
St. Charles County Parcel Viewer	Allows users to search and view detailed property information. Key Features - Search by address or parcel ID - View: Property boundaries - Zoning information - Aerial imagery (current and historical) - Voting and utility districts - Nearby infrastructure and landmarks	https://maps.sccmo.org/public_web_map/
St. Louis City GeoPortal	An online mapping and data platform that provides access to a wide range of geospatial and property-related information for the City of St. Louis. Key Features - Search by: Address - Locator number (parcel ID) - City Block - View data on: Property ownership and parcel boundaries - Zoning and land use - Aerial imagery - Neighborhood and ward boundaries -Historic districts and landmarks	https://geoportal.stlouis-mo.gov/portal/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=8419f3192cd746fcb53f4d08e984556
US Legal Forms – Affidavit Template	Website offers a wide variety of affidavit templates for different legal needs. Here's a summary of what you can find: Types of Affidavit Templates Available: General Affidavit - Affidavit of Heirship Affidavit of Domicile - Affidavit of Small Estate - Customizable state-specific affidavits	https://www.uslegalforms.com/forms/mo-spec-00407/affidavit-general
Missouri Case.net Judicial Records	Official online portal for accessing judicial records from Missouri state courts. It is maintained by the Missouri Office of State Courts Administrator and provides public access to a wide range of court information. What You Can Search: Case records: Includes docket entries, parties, judgments, and charges - Litigant name search: Search by person or organization As of July 1, 2023, public documents filed in many courts are available online - Older documents (pre-July 2023) are only accessible at public access terminals in courthouses	https://www.courts.mo.gov/cnet/welcome.do
Google Earth	helps visualize locations and confirm proximity to known contaminated areas. It's also a great way to guide others through eligibility requirements visually.	Google Earth



RECA Application Checklist

Checklist Item	Requirement
Proof of residency, schooling, or employment in RECA ZIP	Minimum two years after Jan 1, 1949
Medical documentation of specified disease	Diagnosis confirmation
Family documentation (if beneficiary)	Relationship verification
Records from archives, libraries, or genealogy platforms	Support presence in ZIP code
Sworn affidavits (if needed)	Fill documentation gaps
Contact information and mailing address	For communication
Completed RECA application form	For submission