

KGS Earth Analysis Research Library



Earth Analysis Research Library, or EARL, is the largest and most comprehensive public research repository of solid geological samples in Kentucky. These samples provide the best available information for ground-truth observation of Kentucky's subsurface. Examination and understanding of these materials can provide critical and cost-saving insights for energy exploration, environmental management, geotechnical investigation, hydrologic assessment, and geologic research.

Overview of Collections (September 2019)

- ❑ **2,870 Rock cores**
 - A continuous record of the subsurface rock through a specified interval
- ❑ **16,609 Well sample sets from oil and gas wells**
 - Fragments of rock produced during drilling
- ❑ **8,129 Limestone samples**
 - Hand specimens and powdered samples
- ❑ **5,210 Coal samples**
 - Coal quality and palynology samples from Center for Applied Energy Research and Kentucky Geological Survey
- ❑ **1,196 Soil/sediment auger samples**
 - Selected samples from 1960–1978 U.S. Geological Survey-KGS mapping program in Jackson Purchase Region



KGS-EARL is the commonwealth's primary public research and education center for the examination and understanding of Kentucky earth materials.

Facility Capabilities (September 2019)

- Sample viewing (climate controlled)
- Core photography and digital microphotography
- Microscopy (transmitted and dissecting scopes)
- Core plugs (3/4 and 1 inch)
- Rock cutting, splitting, polishing
- Sediment smear slides
- Workshops (classroom or core programs)
- Robust digital communication infrastructure
- Supporting student and professional field trips
- Free guest Wi-Fi
- Document library related to collections
- Document scanning
- Microfilm and microfiche readers



- In support of the land-grant mission of the University of Kentucky, the various collections are available for review and research by academia, industry, government, and the general public.
- EARL collections may be sampled for specific research, with approval.
- Specific guidelines and more information are available via the website.

KGS Earth Analysis Research Library

2500 Research Park Drive
Lexington, KY 40511

Phone: 859-389-8810

Website: www.uky.edu/KGS/EARL

Open to the public Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Appointments preferred.

