

News Media Online

- Type Web address into address bar to bring up website's home page.



This is an example from CNN.com (images will vary)

- If you want to search for something specific, you can use the page's search engine.
- There are general topics that will usually be organized to the side such as World, U.S., Weather, and others. You can click on these links to access for general information.
- If you start reading a story on this main page, you can click the bold letters that say "FULL STORY" to get the rest of the story.

Additional news and media sites include:

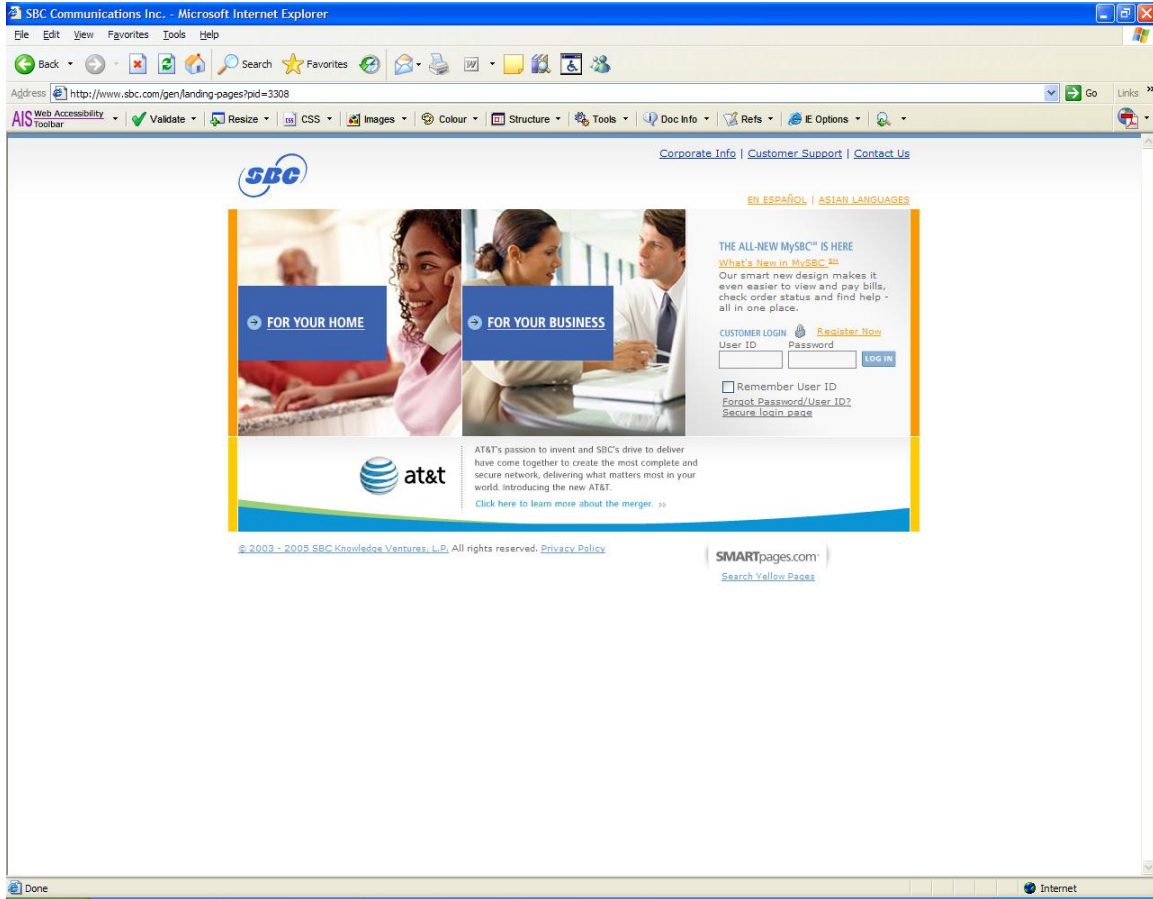
- www.foxnews.com
- www.NYtimes.com
- www.statesman.com
- www.msn.com

Tips for successfully using online media:

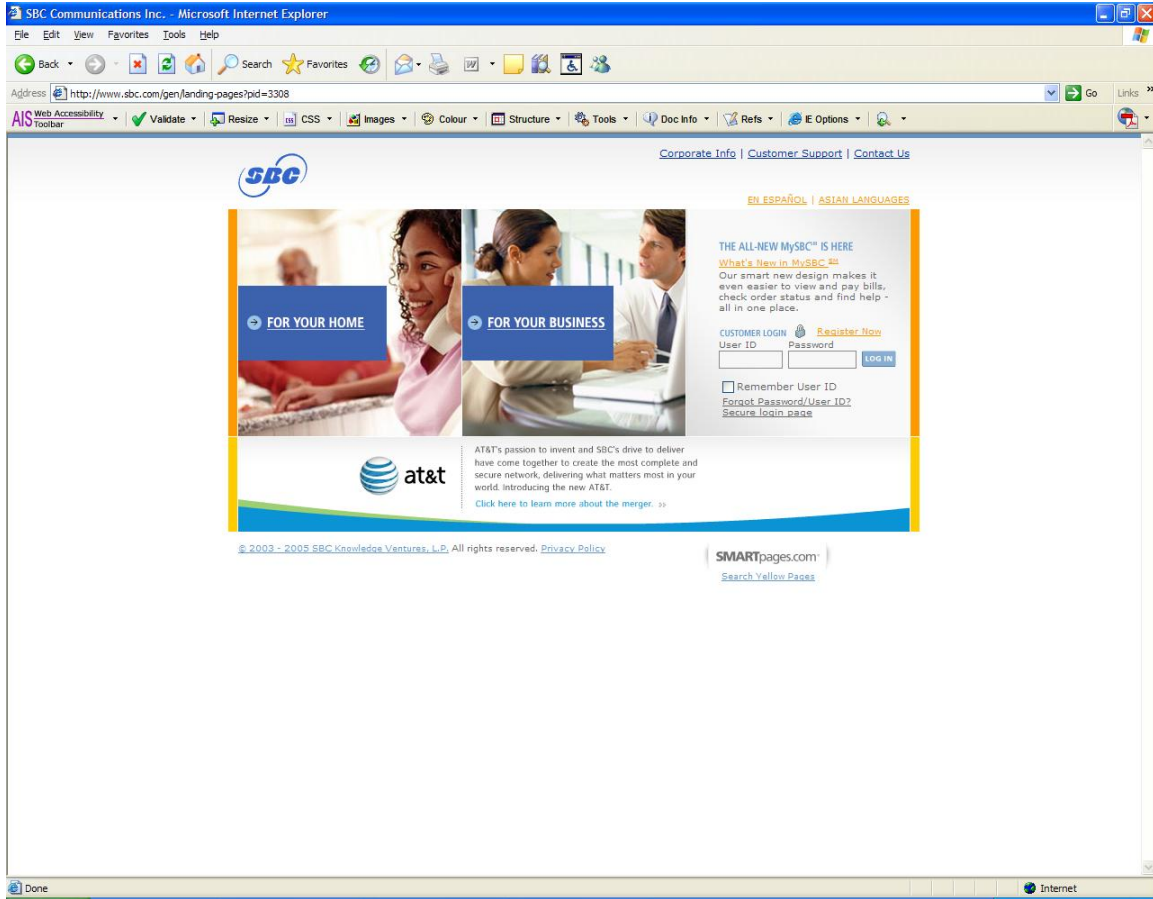
- Flashing screens are most likely irrelevant advertisements.
- Media pages can be updated multiple times a day so you can stay up to date throughout the day.

Online Bill Paying

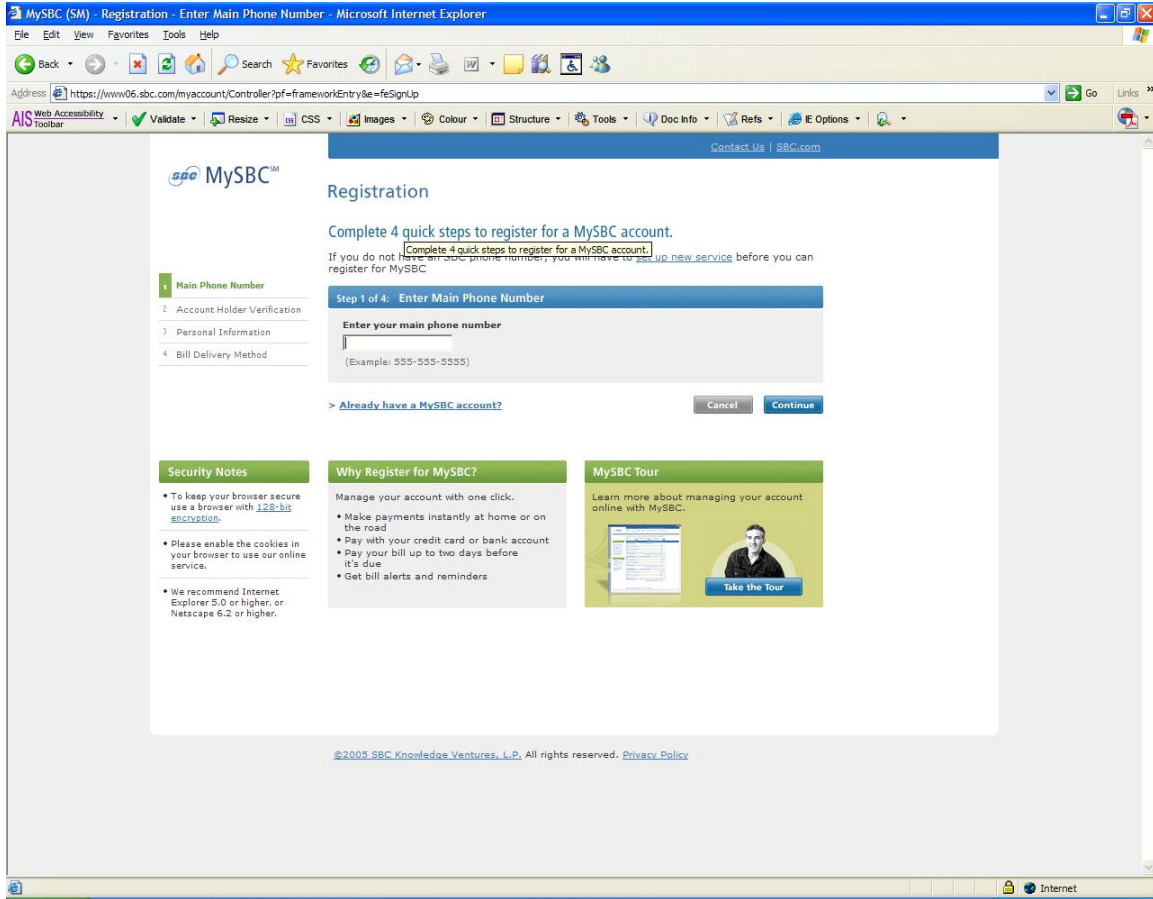
1. Type web address into address bar to bring up website's home page.
(For example, view www.sbc.com)



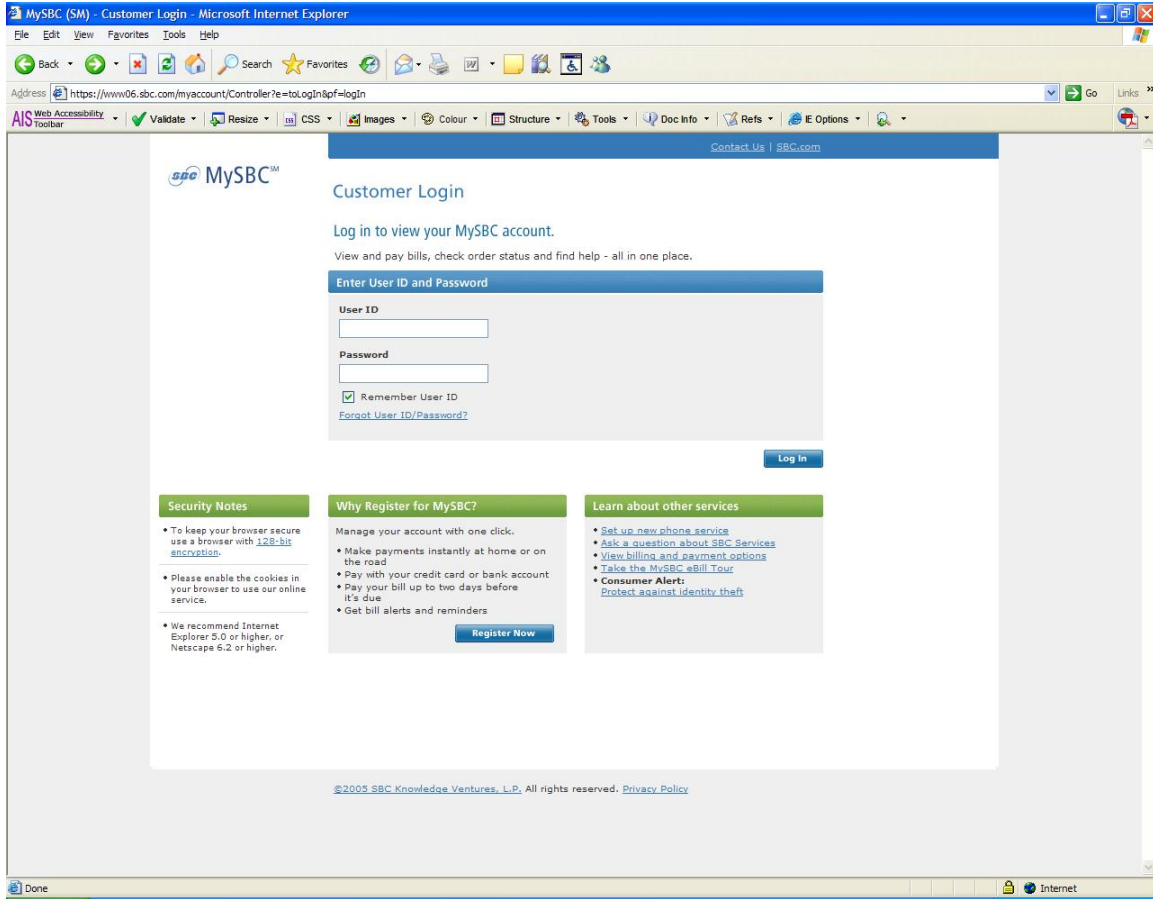
2. Click “Register Now” link on web page.



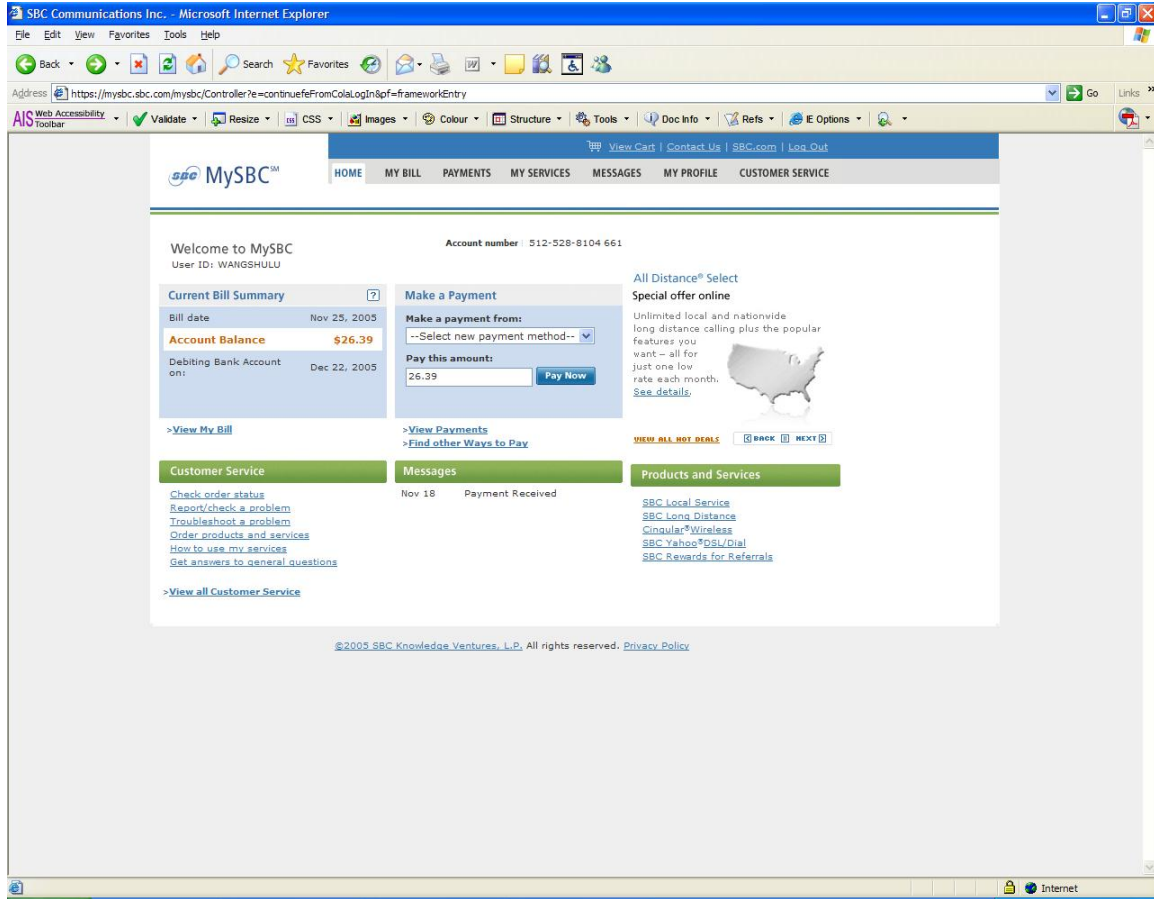
3. Enter personal/account information as directed.



4. Login with created User ID and password.



5. View account balance or pay bill online.



Additional websites that the directions apply to:

- www.texasgasservice.com/index.jsp
- www.statefarm.com
- www.allstate.com

Tips for successfully using online bill paying

- Choose a user ID and password that is easy to remember.
- If paying by bank drafting, make sure you have sufficient funds to cover the payment.
- For security issues, never open e-mails claiming to be from your online account! These could be intended to gain your personal information to be used by others. The bill paying websites will never send you e-mails asking you to log in. Only confirmation e-mails should be sent.
- Online bill paying can be useful if you are running late on payments. Paying through the Internet is instantaneous and can help avoid late fees.
- Be patient! Do not click the "Continue" link more than once so you won't be charged more than one time.
- Always print a confirmation page for your records.
- If you do not wish to pay online, still try to track your payments online to make sure they have cleared.

Accessing Government Websites

What to do first:

1. Know what you're looking for, and what government agency is in charge of it. This will help you find what you need on that agency's webpage. For example, if you are interested in Social Security benefits, you would go to the webpage of the Social Security Administration. There is hardly a government body out there without a webpage, and it is highly likely that with little searching, you can find what you're looking for.
2. Most government web addresses are simply acronyms of the agency's name, followed by the suffix, ".gov". For example, the web address for the Social Security Administration is www.ssa.gov.
3. Not all government websites are formed by acronyms, and additional searching may be needed to find what you need. In this case, you can find the government website you are looking for in one of two ways.
 - a. Go to www.google.com and type in the name of the government agency. The agency's home page will in most cases be the first webpage to come up.
 - b. You can usually find the agency you are looking for by searching the webpage of the higher government body that runs it. For example, if you were looking for the Department of Justice, you would be able to find the webpage with a little bit of navigation on www.whitehouse.gov, because the Department of Justice is an Executive Branch agency.

Examples:

Let's try our first method ("a") and see what we come up with.

Say you want to find out a little bit about taxes. Remember, the first thing to do, is to know which government agency takes care of what you're looking for, in this case, the IRS. So we start by going to www.google.com to look for the IRS website. Here's what we come up with.



Web Results 1 - 10 of about 37,100,000 for IRS [definition] (0.11 s)

Internal Revenue Service

The IRS is the US government agency responsible for tax collection and tax law enforcement. Contains downloadable forms, instructions, ...

www.irs.gov - 20k - Dec 2, 2005 - Cached - Similar pages
Forms and Publications - Individuals
Businesses - Filing your taxes was never easier!
More results from www.irs.gov >

IRS Taxes: Tax Preparation & E-File Information at IRS.com

E-file and tax preparation help at IRS.com—get tax help, info about IRS taxes, fast refunds, filing tax extensions online with the Internal Revenue Service ...

United States Department of the Treasury - Home

Taxpayers. Refund Status. IRS Tax Forms. Online Tax Filing. Report Tax Fraud. Jobs at Treasury. IRS Criminal Investigation Jobs. Treasury Careers ...

IRS - Criminal Investigation

Criminal Investigation, the law enforcement arm of the IRS, investigates violations of the tax laws and other financial crimes.

IRS Auction - Main Menu

Internal Revenue Service. Real and Personal Property Sales ... FAQ| Search| IRS Auction Home| Treasury Home Page| Previous Page · 1953 Bentley ...

TRAC IRS Site

Providing information about the IRS (free registration required).

FTA State Tax Forms Page

Technology/E-File · Motor Fuel Tax · Links · State Agencies · State Tax Forms

Sponsored Links

Truthful IRS Debt Relief

Get The Relief You Need Today Call Us Now For Totally Free Help Ameritax.com

Missing Tax Records?

Your Tax Records, W2s or 1099s in 72 Hrs. Fast & Easy Ordering www.CreditTechnologies.com

Worried about Tax Season?

Enlist the help of professionals to manage your IRS debts. Learn more. www.guidetothethelp.org

Free E-commerce Websites

Dont pay £1000's get us to design your online store for free! www.freestores.co.uk

The IRS website is the very first one in the list. We click on the link to the IRS website, and the main IRS webpage comes up:

Finding the IRS webpage was pretty easy. Now how do we find information about taxes? At this point in the search, we start looking around the webpage for something useful – something that will probably lead us to information about taxes. By looking around the page, we find something useful at the bottom. In a little section called “Information About”, we see a list of links. One of them says “Tax Stats”. It is most likely, that this is our target. Clicking on the link brings up this screen:

The screenshot shows the IRS Tax Statistics page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Contact IRS, About IRS, Site Map, Español, and Help. Below this is the IRS logo and the text "Internal Revenue Service United States Department of the Treasury". A search bar is located on the right side of the header. A horizontal menu below the header lists various categories: INDIVIDUALS, BUSINESSES, CHARITIES & NON-PROFITS, GOVERNMENT ENTITIES, TAX PROFESSIONALS, RETIREMENT PLANS COMMUNITY, and TAX EXEMPT BOND COMMUNITY. The main content area is titled "Tax Statistics - Produced by the Statistics of Income Division and Other Areas of the Internal Revenue Service". It includes a welcome message and several sections of links: Business Tax Statistics, Charitable & Exempt Org. Statistics, Individual Tax Statistics, Products, Publications, & Papers, IRS Operations, Budget & Compliance, Statistics by Form, and Statistics of Income (SOI). A left sidebar contains sections for Statistics, Tax Stats Topics, and IRS Resources.

Here we can find anything we could possibly need to know about taxes. There are multiple sections with useful links, such as “Individual Tax Statistics” and “Statistics by Form”. Clicking on these offers you more and more specific information.

Now we can try the second method for finding the homepage of a government agency, by going to the website of the agency/department that runs it, in this case the Department of the Treasury.

When it comes to the Internet, government websites are structured very similar to the government agency or department that runs them. Government is a bureaucracy, with many branches and sub-branches. On other words, if you are looking for the IRS webpage, you could find a link to it on the webpage for the Department of the Treasury, because the Treasury is responsible for the IRS. Similarly, you could find a link to the Department of the Treasury webpage on www.whitehouse.gov, the office of the President. Let's start by going to the homepage for the Department of the Treasury – www.ustreas.gov. The homepage should look a little like this:

The screenshot shows the homepage of the U.S. Department of the Treasury. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: HOME, CONTACT TREASURY, SITE INDEX, FOIA, ESPAÑOL, ACCESSIBILITY, and PRIVACY & LEGAL. Below this is a header section featuring the Treasury seal on the left, the text "UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY" in the center, and an image of the Treasury building on the right. The main content area is divided into several sections. On the left, there is a search box with a "SEARCH" button and links for "Advanced Search" and "Search Help". Below the search box is a vertical menu of links: News, Direct Links, Key Topics, Press Room, Organization, Offices, Bureaus, and Education. The "Bureaus" link is highlighted. To the right of the search box, there is a "NEWS" section with a photo of Treasury Secretary John Snow and a headline: "Secretary Snow Comments on 30th Straight Month of Payroll Growth". Below the news section is a "BROWSE KEY TOPICS" section with a list of links: Accounting & Budget, Currency & Coins, Enforcement, Financial Markets, General Interest, International, Small Business, Taxes, and Technology. At the bottom, there is a "LATEST PRESS RELEASES" section with a link dated 12/05/2005: "Treasury Seeks Comment on Updated Guidelines to Help Protect Charitable Giving".

Next, we look around for something useful – something that will lead us to the IRS. By looking around the webpage for something we can use, we see a beige box with a bunch of links on the left side of the screen. One of those links is called “Bureaus”. It is more likely than anything else on the screen that this is what we’re looking for. We know that the IRS is run by the Dept of the Treasury, so this might just take us there. Click on “Bureaus” to go to the next screen.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF
THE TREASURY

HOME CONTACT TREASURY SITE INDEX FOIA ESPAÑOL ACCESSIBILITY PRIVACY & LEGAL


search SEARCH


News
Key Topics
Press Room
Organization
Offices
Bureaus


The Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB)
Bureau of Engraving & Printing (BEP)
Bureau of the Public Debt
Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN)
Financial Management Service (FMS)
Inspector General
Inspector General for Tax Administration
Internal Revenue Service (IRS)
Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC)
Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS)
U.S. Mint
Education


BUREAUS


The Treasury Bureaus make up 98% of the Treasury work force and are responsible for carrying out specific operations assigned to the Department.

 **The Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB)** is responsible for enforcing and administering laws covering the production, use, and distribution of alcohol and tobacco products. TTB also collects excise taxes for firearms and ammunition.

 The **Bureau of Engraving & Printing (BEP)** designs and manufactures U.S. currency, securities, and other official certificates and awards.

 The **Bureau of the Public Debt** borrows the money needed to operate the Federal Government. It administers the public debt by issuing and servicing U.S. Treasury marketable, savings and special securities.

 The **Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) Fund** was created to expand the availability of credit, investment capital, and financial services in distressed urban and rural communities.

 The **Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN)** supports law enforcement investigative efforts and fosters interagency and global cooperation against domestic and international financial crimes. It also

In the same beige box, we see that the word “Bureaus” has opened up a list of all the bureaus that the Dept. of the Treasury is responsible for. One of the links says “Internal Revenue Service (IRS)”. Clicking on this link will take us to the IRS homepage.

Useful links:

Main:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| www.whitehouse.gov | White House |
| www.senate.gov | U.S. Senate |
| www.house.gov | U.S. House of Representatives |
| www.supremecourtus.gov/ | U.S. Supreme Court |
| www.ci.austin.tx.us | City of Austin |
| www.ci.austin.tx.us/council/default.htm | Austin City Council |
| www.state.tx.us | State of Texas |
| www.capitol.state.tx.us/ | Texas Legislature Online |
| www.senate.state.tx.us | Texas Senate |
| www.house.state.tx.us | Texas House of Representatives |
| www.aarp.org | AARP |

Medicine:

www.medicare.gov
www.hhsc.state.tx.us/
www.texasmedicarerx.org

U.S. Medicare & Medicaid Services
Texas Dept of Health & Human Services
Texas Medicare

Social Security:

www.ssa.gov
www.ssa.gov/pubs/10035.html
www.aarp.org/money/social_security/

Social Security Administration
SS Retirement Benefits
AARP Social Security Center

Taxes:

www.irs.gov

Internal Revenue Service