Let your news come to you with RSS

What is RSS?
"Really Simple Syndication" (RSS) allows you to electronically subscribe to information on the web, and have it sent to you just like your paper mail subscriptions.

You can use an RSS reader (also called a “feed reader” or “aggregator”) to “subscribe” to various RSS feeds, collecting the information all in one place for convenient reading.

RSS readers
- Google Reader
- Bloglines
- iGoogle
- My Yahoo
- and many others

To get started (using iGoogle):

1. Create a Google account to use iGoogle (or sign up for any RSS reader)
2. Go to your favorite websites and blogs using Firefox as your browser and find the RSS icon or look for the words “subscribe” and/or “feed”.
3. Click on the icon and chose “subscribe to this feed using Google” (or the RSS reader you have chosen) and then chose “add to Google home page” and… you should see your website information on your iGoogle page.
4. (optional) You may want to make iGoogle your home page when you first open your browser (directions linked below).

Resources
- Sean Aery’s blog post about RSS & the Library Catalog shows you how to get information delivered to you right from the library catalog, using RSS. http://library.duke.edu/blogs/libraryhacks/2008/07/18/rss-our-new-catalog-why-how/
- Help with iGoogle http://www.google.com/support/websearch/bin/topic.py?topic=1592
- Directions for making iGoogle your home page http://www.google.com/support/websearch/bin/answer.py?answer=25557&topic=13919
- Easy video explanation of RSS (from the Common Craft Show) http://www.youtube.com/v/0klgLsSxGsU&hl=en