



How does free help me? Cool things from NASA

All Libraries, Scholarly Communications

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Yesterday we talked a little bit about the Open Access movement to share research. Today we are going to focus on the benefits of having research freely available. Let's look at a government agency right in our own backyard — [NASA](#). You may not realize this, but NASA research and technology has contributed to the development of everything from LED lighting to temper foam mattresses. Unlike Area 51, NASA likes to share what it knows, and collaborates with industry partners in all kinds of ways. Here are some examples:

- Better tires with Goodyear
- Portable Cordless Vacuums with Black & Decker
- Computer technology with Google

Those annoying grooves cut into concrete on stairs, parking lots, and highways? NASA had a hand in that as well. Speaking of hands, artificial limb innovations trace back to NASA. That temper foam technology does more than give some people a good night's sleep! It provides a natural look and feel for fake flesh. Think about how research like this contributes to even greater improvement, such as UCF's very own [Limbitless Solutions](#).

Tomorrow we will focus on freedom of information through Florida's Sunshine laws.

For more Information:

For a complete list of NASA technology benefits, visit https://spinoff.nasa.gov/Spinoff2008/tech_benefits.html

To learn more about Open Access, visit <https://library.ucf.edu/about/departments/scholarly-communication/open-access/>