News Solution Quick Start Guide

FireArrow News solution offers an easy-to-use and full-featured news management solution to manage and display news articles in SharePoint sites. It provides flexible news page templates with multiple layouts and styles, back-end content types and list view to manage news articles, an effortless way for editors to create and edit news contents with associated meta-data. In addition, it provides rich features like integration of rating and commenting on news pages, support of adding social network links, etc.

Key Feature List:

Features	**News Solution**
Create and edit news page contents and properties through customized News Page content type	✓
Manage news pages through customized News Library list	✓
Provide four different news page templates	✓
Integration of rating and review features with news article pages. Features highlight as below: • Allow users to rate based on 1-to-5 rating scale and write reviews on news pages • Automatically calculate and display average rating • Display rating summary information: overall rating, # of total ratings, # of total reviews and rating distribution chart. • Display all ratings and review comments • Sort and filter review comments • Pagination to browse through review comments • Reply to Comments" feature • Like/Dislike" votes feature for reviews and replies • Different styles for display overall rating • Options to display overall rating and total # of comments along with page contents For a full list of rating and review features including administrative features, please refer to FireArrow Rating and Review Solution User Manual.	✓
Support adding social network links to news pages	✓
Option to set news expiration date	✓
Support adding other web parts to news pages	✓
Offer News RSS feeds: Top Rated News, Most Rated News, Most Recent News and Most Commented News.	✓
Support integration of News Page feature into SharePoint "Pages" list in 2007 MOSS and 2010 SP environment where publishing feature is enabled.	✓

Support SharePoint 2007 & 2010	✓

Installation

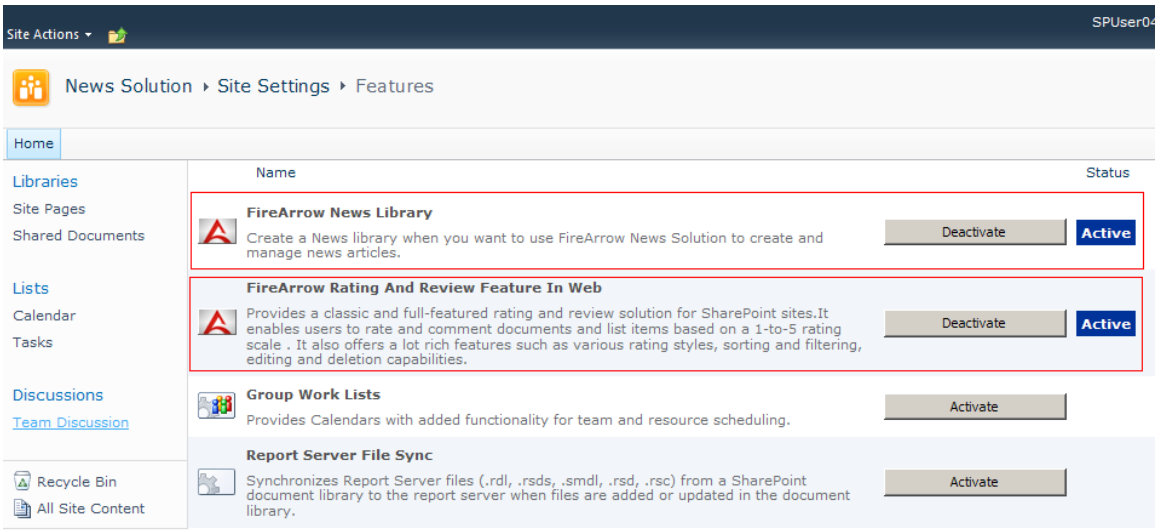
Follow below steps to install FireArrow News Solution to your SharePoint site:

1. Install FireArrow License Manager.
2. Install FireArrow Product Activation Tool. (Optional)
3. Install FireArrow Rating and Review Solution.
4. Install FireArrow Rating and Review Web Part.
5. Install FireArrow News Solution.

Feature Activation

Go to “Manage site features” under the site where you want to use FireArrow News Solution, and activate the following features:

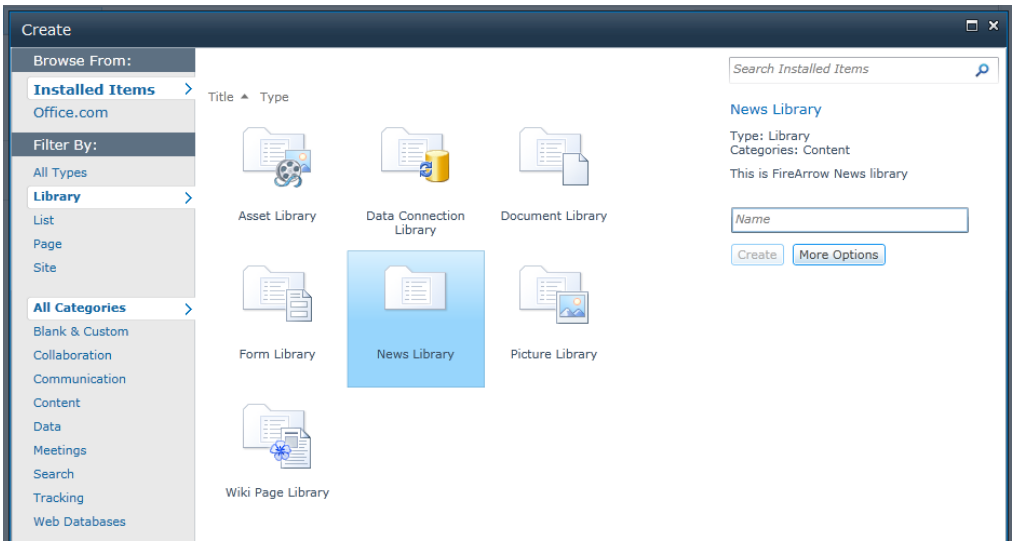
1. FireArrow Rating And Review Feature In Web
2. FireArrow News Library



Now the News Solution is ready to use.

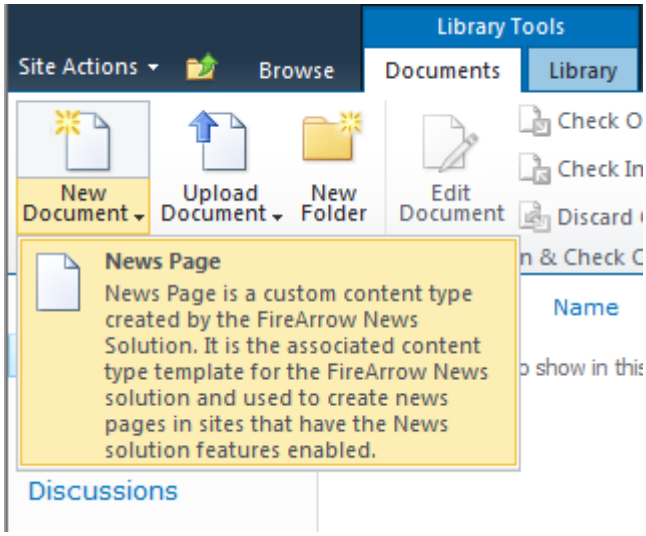
Using News Solution

Creating a News Library list: First you need to create a “New Library” list to store news pages. In list creation page, select “News Library” type to create a news list.

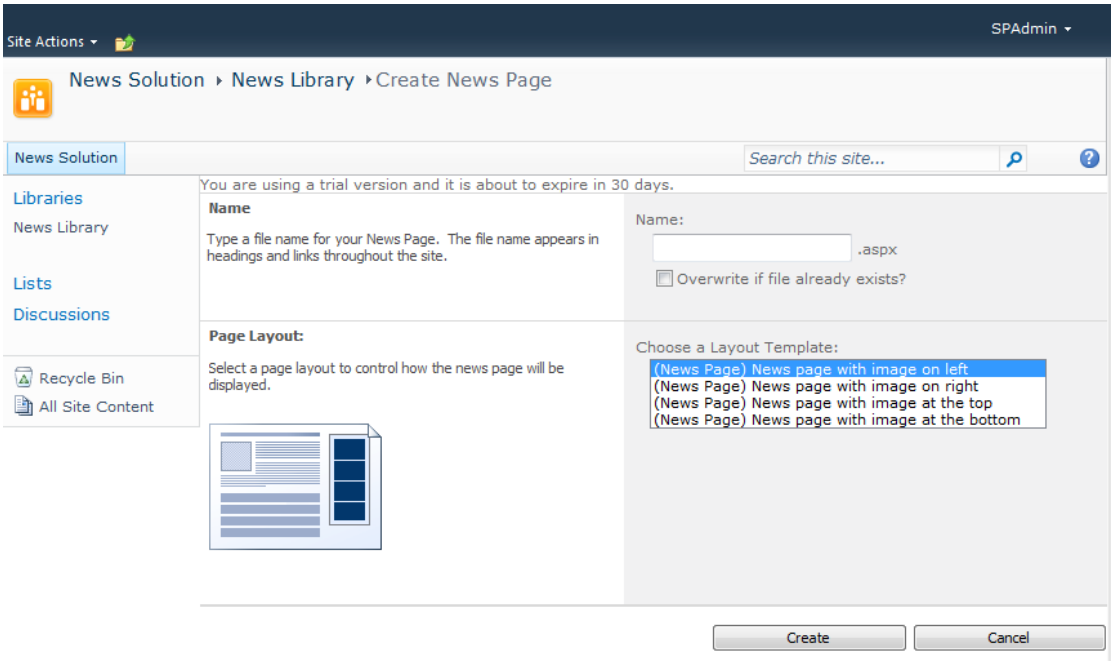


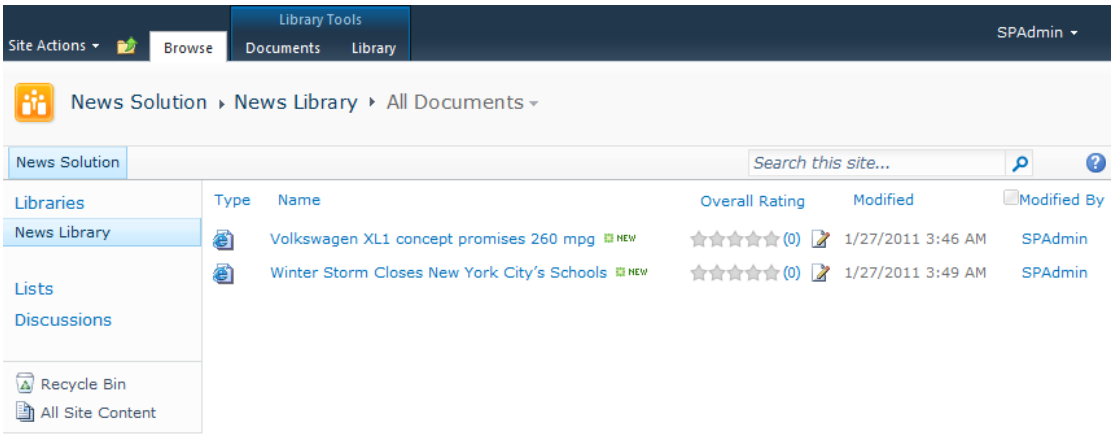
The news library list is a “custom list” provided by the News solution and comes with a custom content type “News Page”.

Creating a News Page: Click “New Document” under the news list and select the “News Page” content type to create a News page.

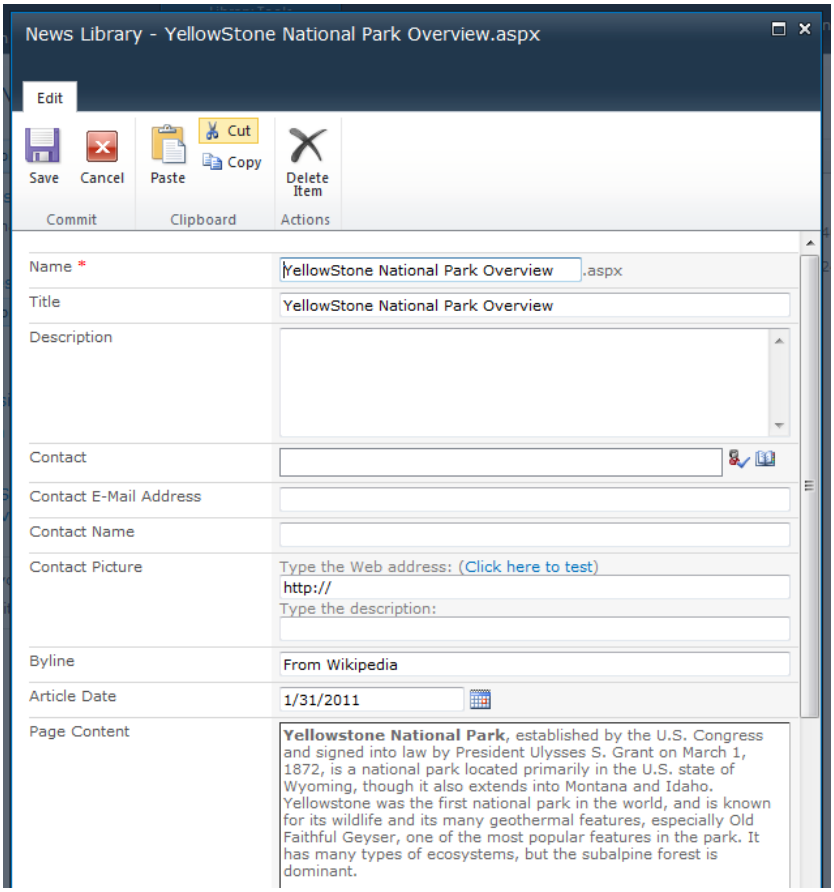


Select a page template from below screen to create a News page.





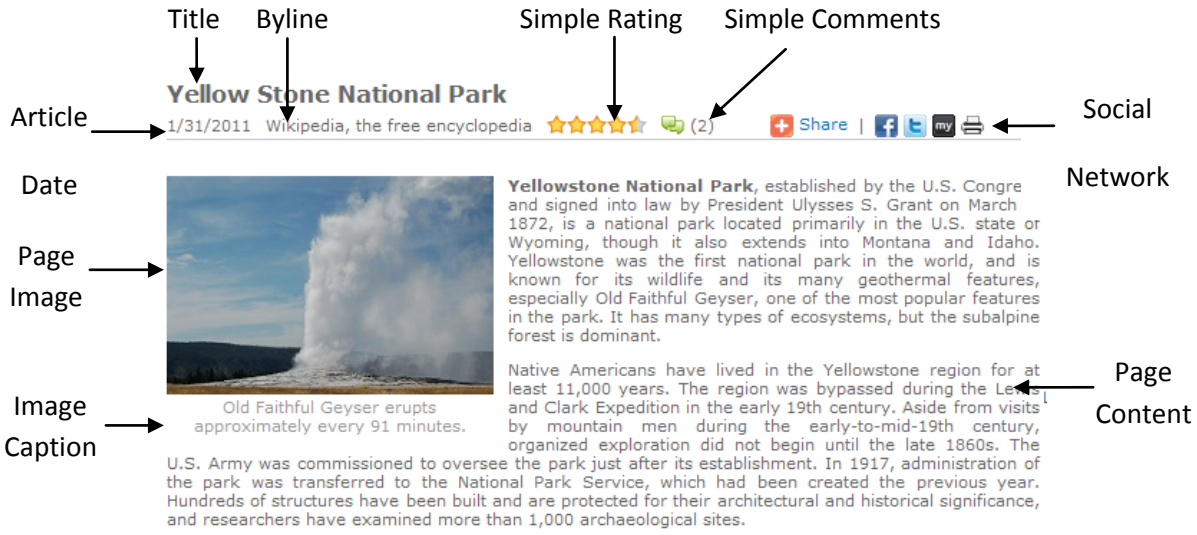
Creating/Editing News Content: After a News page is created in the list, you can enter news content and associated properties through editing News Page properties, as below the screen shows.



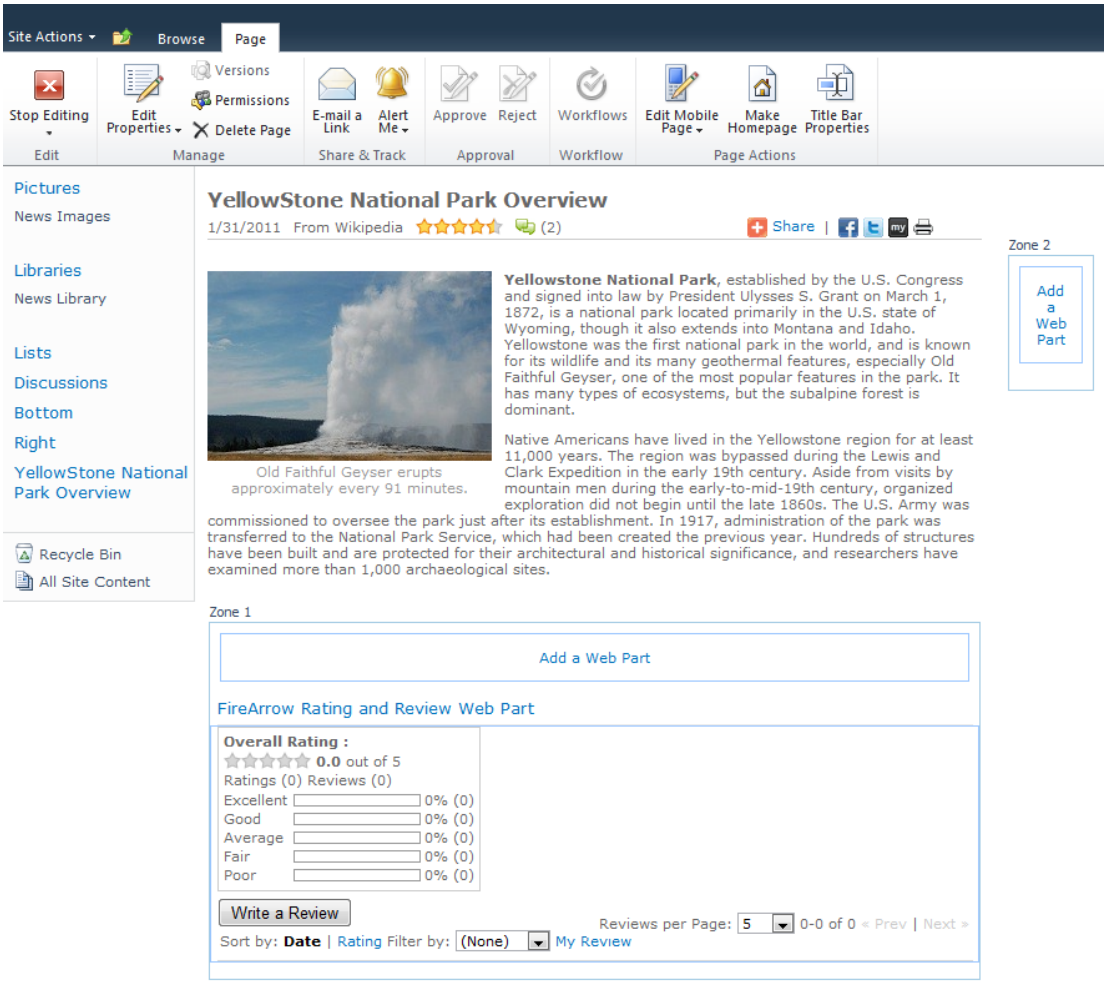
The following property fields will be used to construct the information displayed in a news page.

Fields	**Description**
Title	News article title
Byline	Byline of the news
Article Date	Article date
Page Content	News contents, supports rich-text editing and HTML code to define customized styles.
Page Image	Illustration image of the news
Image Caption	Text displayed below the image
Rating and Review Feature	Allow admin to show/hide the “Overall rating” and “Total # of comments” at the “Heading” section of the page.
Social Network Links	Display social network links. Add code snippets for social network links in this field.

Below screen shows location of these fields being displayed in a news page.



Adding Rating and Review web part: You need to manually add Rating and Review web part to a news page. Once the web part is added to a page, the rating and review information will be automatically associated with current news article.



News RSS Feeds

The following four types of RSS feeds are provided by the solution:

1. **Top rated news**: offers RSS feed of top rated news based on their average rating scores. It provides news items with highest average ratings.
2. **Most rated news**: offers RSS feed of most rated news based on total counts of ratings. It provides news items with highest rating counts.
3. **Most commented news**: offers RSS feed of news with most comments. It provides news items with highest total numbers of review comments.
4. **Most recent news**: offers RSS feed of most recent news. It provides the latest news items.

Feed URL:

The format of RSS feed URL is:

http://<target web url>/_layouts/FireArrow.News/RssAccess.aspx?parameters

Below is an example of RSS feed URL.

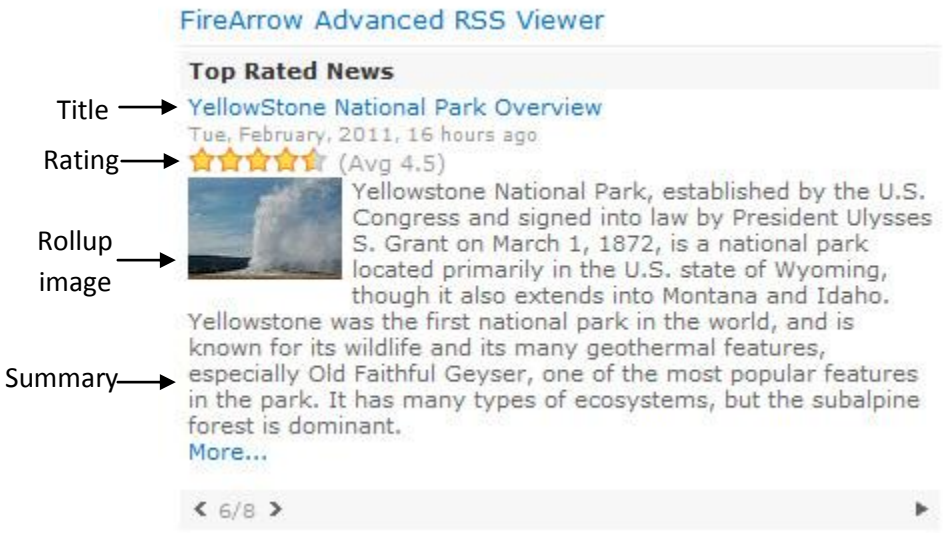
http://qa.firearrowsoft.com/news/_layouts/FireArrow.News/RssAccess.aspx?type=toprated&webname=news&listname=news library&scope=list&limit=5

Parameters: The following parameters are supported in RSS feed URL.

- **Type***:* specifies the type of RSS feed. Valid values for this parameter are: *toprated*, *mostrated, mostcommented, mostrecent*.
- **Webname:** specifies the name of the targeted web.
- **Listname**: specifies the name of the targeted list of the RSS subscription. It supports aggregated RSS subscription from multiple lists by adding multiple listname parameters in the URL. Below is an example of adding multiple lists: http://qa.firearrowsoft.com/news/_layouts/FireArrow.News/RssAccess.aspx?type=toprated&webname=news&**listname**=company news&**listname**=group news&scope=list&limit=5
- **Scope:** specifies the scope of RSS feed. Valid values for this parameter are: *list* or *web*. When the scope is set as "list", the RSS feed will be limited to the targeted list defined by listname parameter. When the scope is set as "web", the RSS feed scope will be all lists under the selected web regardless of the values defined in the listname parameter.
- **Limit:** specifies the total numbers of list items returned in the feed. The default value is 10.

Example of RSS subscription

Below is an example of displaying news RSS feed by using FireArrow Advanced RSS viewer web part. It



Title: display information from "title" field.
Rating: display overall rating information.
Rollup image: display image from "rollup image" field.
Summary: display content from "summary" field.