



# About GitHub

GitHub is a cloud service that allows collaborations on a “shared folder”.

Git vs GitHub.

- Git: Free and open-source “version control system”
- GitHub: Online platform providing a place to share **git repositories (or repos)**

GitHub is all about **repositories (or repos)**

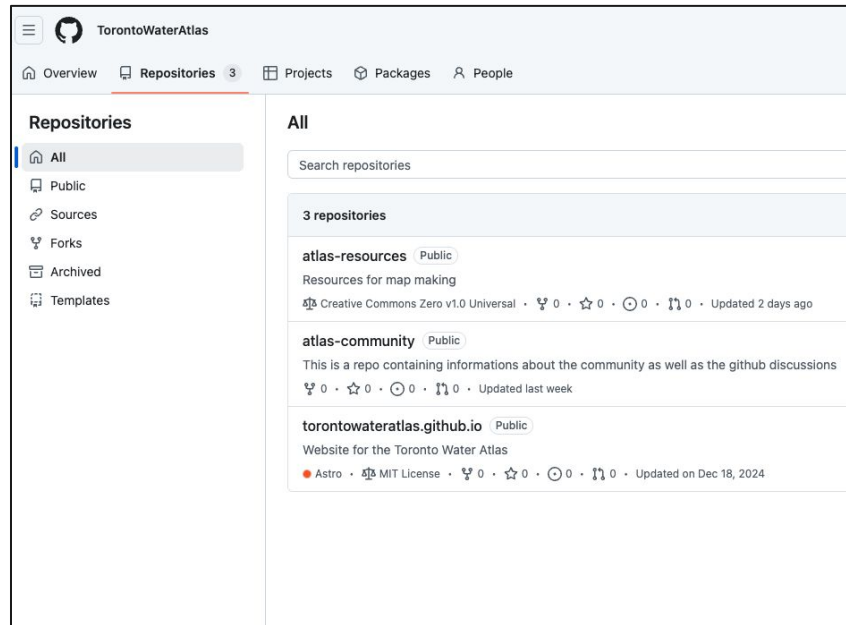
# What is a “repo”?

A repo is like a **shared folder** on the cloud (e.g. Google Drive, DropBox, etc..).

Except that it is very good at **keeping track of changes**.

A repo also comes with a set of **useful tools for contributing work**:

- **Issues**
- **Discussions**
- **And more...**



# How to navigate GitHub?

Folder-like structure with **folders** and **files**.

Demo

The screenshot displays the GitHub repository page for `TorontoWaterAtlas / torontowateratlas.github.io`. The repository is public and has 2 watchers, 0 forks, and 0 stars. The main content area shows a file tree with the following structure:

- `.github/workflows` (Create astro.yml, 2 months ago)
- `.vscode` (First commit, 2 months ago)
- `public` (Initial Website set up, 2 months ago)
- `src` (Formatting fix, 2 months ago)
- `vendor` (First commit, 2 months ago)
- `.editorconfig` (First commit, 2 months ago)
- `.gitignore` (First commit, 2 months ago)
- `.npmrc` (First commit, 2 months ago)
- `.prettierrc` (First commit, 2 months ago)
- `.prettierrc.cjs` (First commit, 2 months ago)
- `LICENSE.md` (First commit, 2 months ago)
- `README.md` (Initial Website set up, 2 months ago)
- `astro.config.ts` (First commit, 2 months ago)
- `eslint.config.js` (First commit, 2 months ago)

The right sidebar contains the following sections:

- About**: Website for the Toronto Water Atlas. Links to Readme, MIT license, Activity, Custom properties, 0 stars, 2 watching, 0 forks, and Report repository.
- Releases**: No releases published.
- Packages**: No packages published.
- Contributors**: 52 contributors. A link to view all 38 contributors is provided.



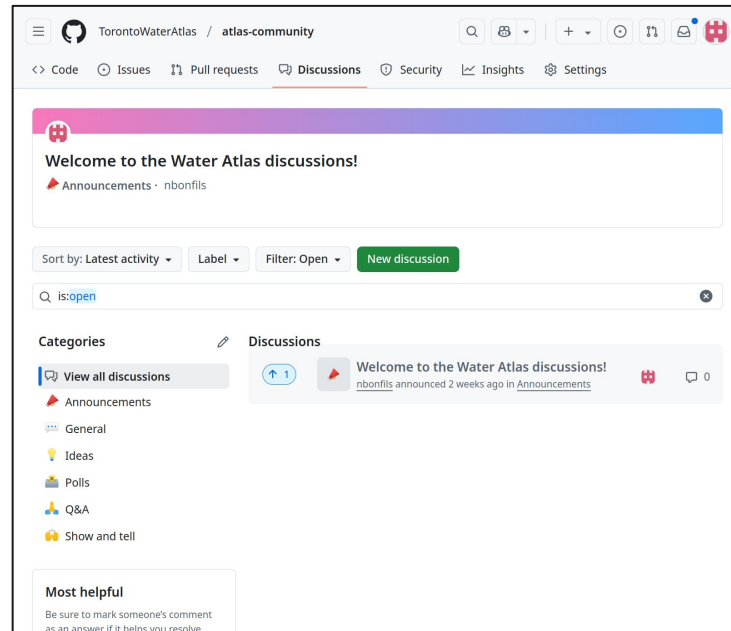
## Starting to contribute: Issues

- “Issues” are like tickets to the IT department
- They can be any sorts of contributions:
  - Suggestions
  - Ideas
  - Concerns
- When created, we say they are “open”
- When resolved/addressed, we “close” them
- They are searchable
- They can be commented on

# GitHub Discussions

Space to discuss, share ideas and thoughts about projects.

Similar to online forums or Reddit.





## Practical Exercise

1. Create an account on <https://github.com>
2. Reply to the “Welcome” post in our discussion with a couple of sentences about yourself.
  - a. Go to the “Discussions” tab in our “atlas-community” repo  
<https://github.com/TorontoWaterAtlas/atlas-community>
  - b. Reply to the “Welcome to the Water Atlas discussions!” post



# Learning More

<https://docs.github.com/en/get-started>



**Thank you**