

Understanding Environmental Health: How We Live in the World

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Transition Guide

What's New to the 2nd Edition!

This second edition of *Understanding Environmental Health: How We Live in the World* incorporates updates to scientific understanding, changes in practice and policy, and important events of recent years (these updates are numerous and are not detailed in the list of Specific Chapter Updates below). There are some modest changes to the scope and structure of individual chapters, as detailed below. As in the first edition, a table in the Appendix shows instructors where familiar environmental health topics are found within the book's chapter structure

Key Student-Friendly Features that Have Not Changed:

- unified narrative and intuitive organization
- clear and straightforward writing style
- glossary of nearly 550 terms, thoughtfully defined
- building series of tables that lay out the complex US regulatory framework

Table of Contents for 2nd edition:

Chapter 1: A Preview of Environmental Health

- Slight changes were made to this brief chapter.

Chapter 2: The Science and Methods of Environmental Health

- Topics have been re-organized into three major sections (methods for understanding hazards, approaches in responding to hazards, and precautionary approaches, see below)
 - This organization is easier for students to grasp and also allows more integrated treatment of precautionary approaches in environmental health.
- 2.1 Understanding Environmental Hazards to Human Health
 - The Fate and Transport of Environmental Contaminants
 - Toxicology: The Science of Poisons
 - Exposure Assessment: An Applied Science
 - Epidemiology: A Quantitative Research Method
 - Community-Based Participatory Research
- 2.2 Responding to Environmental Hazards to Human Health
 - Risk Assessment: A Regulatory Science
 - Risk Management: From Assessment to Action
 - Risk Communication: A Two-Way Street
- 2.3 Precautionary Approaches in Environmental Health Policy
 - The Precautionary Principle
 - The Consensus Conference
 - The Health Impact Assessment

Chapter 3: Living with Nature

- Topic has been broadened from “Living with Other Species” to “Living with Nature.”
- In the context of infectious disease, Chapter 3 now incorporates some content on the composting toilet that was formerly in Chapter 7.
- Adds airborne transmission to the discussion of infectious disease.
- Includes content on radiation basics (formerly in Chapter 4) as the basis for discussing naturally occurring radiation within the scope of “Living with Nature.”
- Adds a brief section on natural disasters, as an aspect of “Living with Nature.”

Chapter 4 Producing Energy

- Adds a discussion of hydraulic fracturing (fracking) in section on fossil fuels.

Chapter 5: Producing Manufactured Goods

Chapter 6: Producing Food

Chapter 7: Living in the World We’ve Made

- Content on the urban environment and hazards of modern life that was previously in sections 7.5 and 7.6 has been re-organized (as sections 7.5 through 7.7) to create a more natural path for the reader.
 - The three section topics are now: *Urban Settings in Less Developed Countries* (7.5); *The Built Environment in More Developed Countries* (7.6); and *Lifestyles: Things We Do, Things We Use* (7.7).