

A Community Guide to Environmental Health

By Jeff Conant, Pam Fadem



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From water quality to social inequality, from raising crops to rising temperatures, how we use natural resources affects our health and well-being. This highly-illustrated guide will help health promoters, educators, community leaders and ordinary people take charge of their communities' environmental health.

In small villages and large cities, *A Community Guide to Environmental Health* can provide tools, knowledge, and inspiration to begin transforming the global crisis in environmental health. This book contains activities to stimulate critical thinking and environmental change, dozens of stories of communities in action, and instructions for making simple technologies to purify water, clean without toxics, get rid of pests, and more.

Like all Hesperian books, this title was developed in consultation with organizations around the world, ensuring its appropriateness and usefulness for a variety of cultures and circumstances.



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Editorial Review

Review

This timely guide is the *Where There Is No Doctor* of community water, sanitation and environmental health. It makes water, health and hygiene accessible to those who need it most. Focusing on the important intersection of public health and risk reduction at the community level FOR the community, this guide is literally a lifesaver. --Miriam Aschkenasy, MD, Public Health Specialist, Oxfam America

Community work, especially our water and sanitation programs, are more effective and efficient when we have tools that meet the needs and expectations of the communities. Hesperian produces materials so creative and communicative, and of such quality and precision, that they allow us to respond to the many common problems of communities while recognizing that each case is unique. The flexibility of these materials makes them useful in a wide variety of social and geographic contexts. --Feliciano dos Santos, ESTAMOS, Mozambique, Winner of the 2008 Goldman Environmental Prize for Africa

This book shows the myriad ways in which water is essential to health, and how our health is threatened by those who would deny our right to water through privatization, pollution, and profiteering. An incredible educational and organizing tool in the struggle for water democracy and global survival. --Maude Barlowe, Director and Co-Founder, Blue Planet Project; and National Chairperson, Council of Canadians

About the Author

Jeff Conant is an environmental activist, writer and editor. His non-fiction and educational writing focuses on the intersection of social justice, development, communications, and ecology. As an independent journalist he has written on climate, water privatization, resource colonization, food sovereignty, ecological sanitation, zero waste, environmental and social justice, and cultural politics for numerous publications; he won a Project Censored Award in 2010 for coverage of the World Water Forum in Istanbul, Turkey.

Pam Fadem is a writer and editor, health promoter and disability rights activist. For over 20 year, Pam has also been involved in prisoner rights support, advocating for health care as a human right on both sides of the prison walls. As a trained EMT she has worked in clinics, hospital emergency rooms, and as ambulance crew, and she founded the Charlotte Maxwell Clinic, a free clinic for low-income women with cancer in Oakland, CA.

As part of Hesperian's renowned field-testing process, 121 grassroots organizations from around the world in 33 countries, including from India, Ecuador, Uganda, Philippines, and Mozambique, participated in the development of this book in English. They reviewed the manuscript and suggested revisions, activities and stories to ensure that the content was relevant and accessible.

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