



Environmental Resource Guide: Nonpoint Source Pollution Prevention



IN A NUTSHELL

Written by: Air and Waste
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Cost: \$22.50 for Air & Waste
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SUBJECTS

Language Arts
Mathematics
Science
Social Studies

This material consists of fifteen activities designed to educate youth about the unique challenges associated with nonpoint source pollution. The activities are intended to blend with existing curricula in the areas of science, math, social science, and language arts. Each is organized to state objectives, provide background information, and explain the procedure.

Each is labeled for subject, time required, and materials needed. Activities address nonpoint source pollution in agriculture, residential areas and households, forestry, industry, and by private individuals.

Students engage in activities such as developing a model farm to study runoff or a septic tank (leachates), and simulating clearcutting and selective cutting forestry practices using grass seeds. The guide also contains a glossary and ten fact sheets providing background information on water pollution, water quality factors, management options, and individual actions. The material is provided in a three-ring binder for easy use. Parallel modules are available for grades K-2, 3-5, and 9-12.

Grade Level	6-8
Length	107 pages
Date Published	1992

THE BOTTOM
L I N E

"Any teacher should be able to use this resource with little difficulty and feel comfortable about outcomes."

What the REVIEWERS Said !	Key Characteristics	Strengths Noted	Other Considerations
	Fairness and Accuracy	Facts appear accurate, up to date.	Presentations do not always balance different viewpoints. Labels alternatives as good or bad.
	Depth	Presents concepts in useful and logical order. Activities help support concepts.	Few links to social and economic issues.
	Emphasis on Skills Building	Provides some critical and creative thinking skills, research skills, some testing (pH, temperature).	Emphasis on simulated gathering of data. Students not encouraged to define or investigate problems for themselves.
	Action Orientation	Some opportunities for action but not a major emphasis.	Seems to identify <i>others</i> who are responsible, rather than looking at personal behavior or choices.
	Instructional Soundness	Includes some out-of-doors activities. Provides specific directions for different grades. Objectives are stated clearly.	Some activities do not appear to be age-appropriate. Relies heavily on reading and lecture.
	Usability	Materials are largely simple and free or inexpensive. Masters are clear. Clearly defines objectives, goals, materials, and time.	Fails to provide safety instructions for potentially dangerous activities.

"There is a wide range of difficulty in these lessons, from extremely challenging to extremely simple."

"Children will conclude that they can do nothing but proselytize to their parents."