and two communities that have abandoned the technology. In addition, the authors discuss potential health and environmental risks posed by WTE and alternative waste practices.

The authors stress that they are not attempting to oppose or promote WTE or any other method to manage municipal waste. However, they have described in a neutral fashion the social and economic issues that are often central to decisions about particular WTE projects and will play a key role in determining the overall viability of WTE in the future or at all.

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Hydrology: An Environmental Assessment, by Ian Watson and Alister D. Burnett, Buchanan Books Cambridge, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, 1993, 702 pages, price US$ 39, ISBN 1-5667008-7-6

The public seldom appreciates the world's sources of water until these sources are in short supply. Recently, water shortages have been more common internationally, and aquifer contamination has become more widespread. Watson and Burnett have attempted, in textbook style, to define the field of hydrology and the need for geologists and engineers to preserve, protect, and restore the quality of both surface water and groundwater, which are highly prized resources worldwide.

Hydrology is the study of water and deals with surface water and groundwater, their interdependence, and their interaction with earth materials. This textbook covers all aspects of the hydrologic cycle, including atmospheric phenomena such as precipitation and evapotranspiration. The book also covers several areas of investigation that could be better defined as *engineering hydrology* and include flooding, flood analysis, flood control, and seepage through earth dams. Topics such as well hydraulics, solute transport, aquifer contamination and facets of the field that relate specifically to geology (i.e., influence of joints, fractures, and faults in groundwater seepage through rock) are also covered.

In addition to discussions of the specific study areas of hydrology, the authors also discuss hazardous waste and its effect on the environment. Radioactive and hazardous chemical waste products pose a threat to the environment, and Watson and Burnett contend that the interest of the hydrologist to the problem of hazardous waste pollution should be to adequately design and competently manage disposal areas that may have an impact on water supplies.

Watson and Burnett stress that hydrology must be more of a field-based art than a mathematical science. Nevertheless, computer modeling is introduced in a local way, and a diskette is provided for a hands-on approach to learning. The focus of the book is in understanding basic concepts and application of these concepts to real situations. All in all, this is a solid undergraduate text in hydrology and hydrogeology.

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