

Environmental and Western Histories

Personal favorites marked with **

Philosophy, Art, Literature, Imagination

**Jared Farmer, On Zion's Mount: Mormons, Indians and the American Landscape (Cambridge, MA, 2008)

**Leo Marx, The Machine in the Garden: Technology and the Pastoral Ideal in America (New York, 1964)

**Janisse Ray, Ecology of a Cracker Childhood: The World as Home (Minneapolis, 2000)

Lawrence Buell, The Environmental Imagination : Thoreau, Nature Writing, and the Formation of American Culture (Cambridge, MA, 1995).

Michael Williams, Americans and Their Forests: A Historical Geography (New York, 1989).

Roderick Nash, Wilderness and the American Mind, 4th ed. (New Haven, 2001)

Big Picture

**Alfred W. Crosby, Ecological Imperialism: The Biological Expansion of Europe, 900-1900 (New York, 1986).

**James C. Scott, Seeing Like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition Have Failed (New Haven, 1998)

J. R. McNeill Jr., Something New Under the Sun: An Environmental History of the Twentieth Century World (New York, 2000)

James Axtell, Beyond 1492: Encounters in Colonial North America (New York, 1992).

Jared Diamond, Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fate of Human Societies (New York, 1997).

Alfred W. Crosby, The Columbian Exchange: Biological and Cultural Consequences of 1492 (Westport, Conn., 1972).

D.W. Meinig, The Shaping of America: Vol.1, Atlantic America, 1492-1800 (New Haven, 1986).

Charles Mann, 1491: New Revelations of the Americas Before Columbus (New York, 2005)

Parks, Tourism

**Hal K. Rothman, Devil's Bargains: Tourism in the Twentieth-Century West (Lawrence, KS, 1998).

**Mark David Spence, Dispossessing the Wilderness: Indian Removal and the Making of the National Parks (Oxford, 2000)

Paul Sutter, Driven Wild: How the Fight Against Automobiles Launched the Modern Wilderness Movement (Seattle, 2004)

Alfred Runte, National Parks: The American Experience 3rd ed. (Lincoln, NE, 1997).

Ethan Carr, Wilderness by Design: Landscape Architecture and the National Park Service (Lincoln, NE, 1998).

Richard White, The Roots of Dependency: Subsistence, Environment, and Social Change among the Choctaws, Pawnees, and Navajos (Lincoln, NE, 1983).

**Shepard Krech III, The Ecological Indian: Myth and History (New York, 1999)
Jared Farmer, Glen Canyon Dammed: Inventing Lake Powell and the Canyon Country (Albuquerque, 1999)

Disease, Waste

**Elizabeth Fenn, Pox Americana: The Great Smallpox Epidemic of 1775-1782 (New York: 2001)

J. R. McNeill, Plagues and Peoples (1977).

**Conevery Bolton Valencius, The Health of the Country: How American Settlers Understood Themselves and Their Land (New York, 2002).

Joel A. Tarr, Search for the Ultimate Sink: Urban Pollution in Historical Perspective. (Akron, OH, 1996).

**Martin V. Melosi, The Sanitary City: Urban Infrastructure in America from Colonial Times to the Present (Baltimore, 2000).

Molly Crosby, The American Plague: The Untold Story of Yellow Fever, the Epidemic that Shaped Our History (New York: 2006)

Charles E. Rosenberg, The Cholera Years: The United States in 1832, 1849, and 1866 (Chicago, 1962, 1987).

“Natural” Disasters

**Mike Davis, Ecology of Fear: Los Angeles and the Imagination of Disaster (New York, 1999)

**Ted Steinberg, Acts of God: The Unnatural History of Natural Disaster in America (Oxford, 2006)

Craig Colten, An Unnatural Metropolis: Wrestling New Orleans from Nature (Baton Rouge, 2006).

Ari Kelman, A River and its City: The Nature of Landscape in New Orleans.(Berkeley, 2001).

Politics/Commons/Resistance/Law

**Karl Jacoby, Crimes Against Nature: Squatters, Poachers, Thieves, and the Hidden History of American Conservation (Berkeley, 2001).

**Arthur F. McEvoy, The Fisherman’s Problem: Ecology & Law in the California Fisheries, 1850-1980 (New York, 1986).

**J. R. McNeill, Something New Under the Sun: An Environmental History of the Twentieth Century World (New York, 2000).

**James C. Scott, Seeing Like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition Have Failed (New Haven, 1998)

**Ian Tyrrell, True Gardens of the Gods: Californian-Australian Environmental Reform, 1860-1930 (Berkeley, 1999)

Adam Rome, The Bulldozer in the Countryside: Suburban Sprawl and the Rise of American Environmentalism (Cambridge, 2001)

**Theodore Steinberg, Nature Incorporated: Industrialization and the Waters of New England, (New York, 1991).

Louis S. Warren, The Hunter’s Game: Poachers and Conservationists in Twentieth-Century America (New Haven, 1997).

Samuel P. Hays, Conservation and the Gospel of Efficiency: The Progressive Conservation Movement, 1890-1920 (Cambridge, MA, 1959).

Samuel P. Hays, Beauty, Health, and Permanence: Environmental Politics in the United States, 1955-1985 (Cambridge, 1987).

Richard W. Judd, Common Lands, Common People: The Origins of Conservation in Northern New England (Cambridge, MA, 1997).

Neil Maher, Nature's New Deal: The Civilian Conservation Corps and the Roots of the American Environmental Movement (Oxford, 2007).

Science/Technology

**Edmund Russell, War and Nature: Fighting Humans and Insects with Chemicals from World War I to Silent Spring (Cambridge, 2001).

David Nye, American Technological Sublime (Cambridge, MA: 1994).

Joseph E. Taylor, III, Making Salmon: An Environmental History of the Northwest Salmon Crisis (Seattle, 1999).

Christine Keiner, The Oyster Question: Scientists, Watermen, and the Maryland Chesapeake Bay since 1880 (Athens, GA: 2009).

South

**Jack Temple Kirby, Poquosin: A Study of Rural Landscape & Society (Chapel Hill, 1995).

**Jack Temple Kirby, Land of Mockingbird Song: Ecological Landscapes of the South (Chapel Hill, 2006).

**Janisse Ray, Ecology of a Cracker Childhood: The World as Home (Minneapolis, 2000).

Mart A. Stewart, "What Nature Suffers to Groe:" Life, Labor, and Landscape on the Georgia Coast, 1680-1920 (Athens, GA, 1996).

Alfred E. Cowdrey, The Land, This South: An Environmental History rev. ed. (Lexington, KY, 1996).

Timothy Mitchell, Mount Mitchell and the Black Mountains: An Environmental History of the Highest Peaks in Eastern North America (Chapel Hill, 2007).

Jack Davis, An Everglades Providence: Marjory Stoneman Douglas and the American Environmental Century (Athens, 2009).

Shepard Krech, Spirits of the Air: Birds and American Indians in the South (Athens, 2009).

Clare Strom, Making Catfish Bait Out of Government Boys: The Fight against Cattle Ticks and the Transformation of the Yeoman South (Athens, 2009).

Lynn Nelson, Jr., Pharsalia: An Environmental Biography of a Southern Plantation, 1780-1880 (Athens, 2007).

West

**Donald Worster, Dust Bowl: The Southern Plains in the 1930s (Oxford University Press, 1979/2004)

**William Cronon, Nature's Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West (New York, 1991).

**Ian Tyrrell, True Gardens of the Gods: Californian-Australian Environmental Reform, 1860-1930 (Berkeley, 1999).

Kathryn Morse, The Nature of Gold: An Environmental History of the Klondike Gold Rush (Seattle, 2003).

Richard White, "It's Your Misfortune and None of My Own: A New History of the American West" (Norman, Okla., 1991).

**Andrew Isenberg, The Destruction of the Bison: An Environmental History, 1750-1920 (New York, 2000).

Nancy Langston, Forest Dreams, Forest Nightmares: The Paradox of Old Growth in the Inland West (Seattle, 1995).

Nancy Langston, Where Land and Water Meet: A Western Landscape Transformed (Seattle, 2003).

Mark Fiege, Irrigated Eden: The Making of an Agricultural Landscape in the American West (Seattle, 1999).

Connie Chiang, Shaping the Shoreline: Fisheries and Tourism on the Monterey Coast (Seattle, 2008).

Conevery Bolton Valencius, The Health of the Country: How American Settlers Understood Themselves and Their Land (New York, 2002).

Linda Nash, "Finishing Nature: Harmonizing Bodies and Environments in Nineteenth-century California," *Environmental History*, 8 (January 2003): 25-52.

Animals

Elinor G. K. Melville, A Plague of Sheep: Environmental Consequences of the Conquest of Mexico (New York, 1994).

Lance Edwin Davis, In Pursuit of Leviathan: Technology, Institutions, Productivity, and Profits in American Whaling, 1816-1906 (Chicago, 1997).

Thomas R. Dunlap, Saving America's Wildlife (Princeton, 1988).

**Robert Wilson, Seeking Refuge: Birds and Landscapes of the Pacific Flyway (Seattle, 2010).

Cities

**William Cronon, Nature's Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West (New York, 1991).

**Matthew Klingle, Emerald City: An Environmental History of Seattle (New Haven, 2007).

**Andrew Hurley, Environmental Inequalities: Class, Race and Industrial Pollution in Gary, Indiana, 1945-1980 (Chapel Hill, 1995).

The Organic City

Ted Steinberg, Down to Earth: Nature's Role in American History (New York, 2002).

Martin V. Melosi, The Sanitary City: Urban Infrastructure in America from Colonial Times to the Present (Baltimore, 2000).

Joel A. Tarr, Search for the Ultimate Sink: Urban Pollution in Historical Perspective (Akron, OH, 1996).

Biography

**Donald Worster, A Passion for Nature: The Life of John Muir (Oxford, 2008).

**Donald Worster, River Running West: The Life of John Wesley Powell (Oxford, 2000).

Linda Lear, Rachel Carson: Witness for Nature (New York, 1997).

Char Miller, Gifford Pinchot and the Making of Modern Environmentalism (Island Press, 2001)

David Lowenthal, George Perkins Marsh: Prophet of Conservation (Seattle, 2000).