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Three out of four Americans now think of themselves as environmentalists. Millions of children are busy with projects to save the Earth. But we all would be more effective at resolving today's pressing environmental issues if we had a clearer understanding of the ecological principles behind them. With this lively guide to the essentials of ecology, Ernest Callenbach provides a pocket-sized introduction to the wonderful complexity of life on Earth--and our part in it.

Callenbach uses everyday, nontechnical language to explain sixty basic ecological concepts. These brief, information-packed entries are arranged alphabetically and amply cross-referenced. Thus the reader can move freely around a dynamic network of ideas, gaining easy access to the new thinking that scientists, environmentalists, politicians, government officials, business people, and concerned citizens everywhere are using to seek a sustainable future for humanity.

As timely as today's news, Ecology includes current findings on the microscopic beings that first made plant and animal life possible and now regulate global temperature and oxygen levels--a dramatic new story of the intricate interconnections of all life on Earth. Finally we have a book that equips us to take informed personal and political action with the ecological wisdom needed for the twenty-first century.