

Richard's Required Readings

Cool It! by Bjorn Lomborg

...the contrarian of the environmental movement, who questions not the reality of climate change but its importance in the context of other challenges facing global society over the next century

The Ecomodernist Manifesto by Steward Brand & colleagues

... a concise and beautifully written set of principles, including some contrarian but well supported ideas about energy, land use, and our relationship with the natural world

Heat by George Monbiot

...a balanced review of current evidence and discussion about climate change based on authoritative sources

Hot Air by Jeffrey Simpson, Mark Jaccard, Jeremy Rivers

...climate change issues translated into the Canadian context: how what we say has not matched what we do; with some practical recommendations for finally making real progress

The Human City by Joel Kotkin

...subtitled 'urbanism of the rest of us' this challenges virtually every tenant of conventional urban planning and argues for a new city form – neither highrise nor sprawl – based on the notion of 'a constellation of urban villages'

Natural Capitalism by Paul Hawken, Amory Lovins, Hunter Lovins

...the first introduction of the idea that the natural world needs to be valued as a kind of 'capital', even if it is immeasurable, with a discussion of the challenges and opportunities this offers for all sectors of society

The Planet Remade by Oliver Morton

...a frank look at the state of the planet and the effectiveness of belated international efforts to manage human impacts on the climate, with some surprisingly straightforward suggestions for dealing with the most immediate threats and provide the 50 years 'breathing space' needed for long term measures to produce tangible results

Reconstructing Earth by Braden Allenby

...written by the Director of my program at ASU, outlining his view that we have both the means and the obligation to take responsibility for the planet whose systems we already influence to such an extent that we have now entered a new epoch called the *anthropocene*: the age of humans (*warning*: don't read this one unless you are prepared to completely change the way you think about everything around you)

Sustainability Assessment by Bob Gibson and colleagues

...written by the Director of my program at UWaterloo, describing a novel approach to looking at complex socio-environmental projects like water conservation, resource extraction, and urban development by challenging the 'do the least harm' objective of traditional environmental assessments and looking at how to find the greatest overall benefits for both humans and the planet

Water 4.0 by David Sedlack

... a fascinating review of the history of water in Western society, and the growing pressure to move from our current approach to a new paradigm (Water 4.0) either by choice or by crisis

The Whole Earth Discipline by Stewart Brand

...a new perspective from the publisher of the *Whole Earth Catalogue* and founder of the California 'back to the earth' philosophy: acknowledging a few big mistakes the environmental movement has made and the importance of embracing technology as part of a sustainable future