



# Government Institutes

**For Immediate Release**

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## **Handbook Provides Introduction to the Science of Ecology**

Lanham, MD, January 24, 2008—Professionals interested in understanding the basics of ecology need to examine three key areas, according to *Ecology for Non-Ecologists*, a new book from compliance and management publisher Government Institutes.

Funneling the broad, multidisciplinary field of ecology—which incorporates aspects of biology, chemistry, physics, geology, meteorology, agriculture, forestry, and more—into a single stream, the author provides those with backgrounds in only a handful, or even none, of these disciplines with an easy-to-read understanding of the functions and values of ecology and its interrelationships with other sciences.

Organized into three parts, this book focuses on the fundamentals of ecology, the role of biodiversity, and the practical side of ecology. It looks at the interrelationship of life forms in our environment and provides straightforward explanations about the complicated interactions among nature and humans.

Readers will find illustrative problems in terms of commonly used ecological parameters to develop a solid understanding of basic concepts, definitions, and descriptions and to have enough background to make sound technical and personal decisions about ecology. They will examine such topics as biogeochemical cycles, ecological pyramids, and the laws of population ecology. They will also examine species, terrestrial ecosystems, and aquatic systems and find chapter review tests to reinforce their understanding.

“Although this book is primarily intended for professionals in the environmental field, it is also designed for a more general audience,” notes author Frank Spellman. “I hope this book will enable readers to broaden their outlook on the environment and, in particular, to aid in understanding it.”

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*Ecology for Non-Ecologists* can be ordered by calling 800-462-6420 or visiting [www.govinstpress.com](http://www.govinstpress.com) and typing “Ecology” in the book search box. *Softcover, 360 pages, December 2007, \$85 ISBN: 0-86587-197-3 (978-0-86587-197-1).*

### **About the Author**

Frank R. Spellman is Assistant Professor of Environmental Health at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia. He is a professional member of the American Society of Safety Engineers, the Water Environment Federation, and the Institute of Hazardous Materials Managers. He is also a Board Certified Safety Professional and Board Certified Hazardous Materials Manager with more than 35 years of experience in environmental science and engineering.

### **About Government Institutes**

Government Institutes, a division of Scarecrow Press, Inc., publishes compliance and management resources, including the complete line of Code of Federal Regulations, for the environmental, occupational-safety-and-health, food and drugs, risk management, and homeland security industries. For more information, visit [www.govinstpress.com](http://www.govinstpress.com), or contact Janet Wolfe, 301-459-3366, [jlwolfe@rowman.com](mailto:jlwolfe@rowman.com).

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