



77 Federal Street
San Francisco, CA 94107
t: 415.284.1420
f: 415.284.1414
www.alternet.org/books

Contact: Patrick Hughes, Marketing Coordinator
415.284.1420 x324 patrick@alternet.org

WATER CONSCIOUSNESS

How We All Have to Change to Protect Our Most Critical Resource

Edited by Tara Lohan

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“The world is running dry, but only because of our folly. There is time, just, to head it off. But only if we begin. This volume is the place to start.”
--Bill McKibben, *End of Nature*

In 2007 the world’s water crisis finally began to hit home in the United States, with once water rich areas like the Southeast succumbing to drought. Major cities like Atlanta were faced with the possibility of having no water for millions of residents. In short, 36 U.S. states are facing scarcity in the next 10 years. The water crisis is a reality, and it is also in our power to stave it off.

Water Consciousness is designed to change the way people think about water. It assembles leading environmental writers, thinkers, and activists (like Bill McKibben, Vandana Shiva, Maude Barlow, Tony Clarke, Deborah Kaufman, Alan Snitow, and Wenonah Hauter) to delve into the crisis, what it means to us, and what we can do about it. The book addresses how much water is actually left and where it is, the threat of privatization, the folly of bottled water, the quagmire of dams, the role of agriculture, and how the water crisis is linked with global warming.

Water Consciousness also inspires. Contributors cover watershed literacy, the possibility of conservation and efficiency, the role of new technology and design, and the need for policy that protects water for all people as a common trust and not a commodity. It is a book that will change not just your day-to-day activities but your thinking as well.

Through essays and photographs, the book elucidates the truth about the water crisis and its solutions.