

REUSING THE RESOURCE
Adventures in Ecological Wastewater Recycling
Carol Steinfeld and David Del Porto

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Systems and methodologies to use, treat, and grow away wastewater

The water, nutrients, organics, and energy in wastewater are too valuable to waste. Reusing the Resources shows how gardens, farms, wetlands, and tree plantations can treat wastewater effectively. How plants can remove pollutants, how wastewater can produce energy, and how to avoid creating wastewater in the first place.

Reusing the Resource shows a range of solutions for strategically using water with the complexity, multiplicity of function, and living systems of effective ecosystems. More than 40 profiles inform and inspire — from a Manhattan skyscraper that uses graywater and rainwater, to a nine-town treatment plant that irrigates a region's vast strawberry crops, to sculptures that clean river water.

Written and accessible to a wide audience, this is a crucial guide for community planners, health officials, building designers, landscape architects, engineers, developers and anyone who designs the built environment and cares about resources.

“This is the book we have been waiting for to describe this central facet of integrated water management: how to manage wastewater flows most efficiently with ecosystem-oriented approaches. Today, a paradigm shift is taking place in the way in which ‘wastes’ are regarded. With growing populations and resource realities, ‘waste’ is too valuable to waste. *Reusing the Resource* guides this shift, showing how linear old-school engineering approaches can be integrated with nature’s cyclical and effective ecologies. This book reveals a powerful maxim for the 21st century: ‘It’s only wastewater, if you waste it.’ Amen!”

—Robert France, Associate Professor of Landscape Ecology, Harvard Design School

CAROL STEINFELD is a writer, researcher, and resource-recycling program specialist who writes about ecological resource management solutions. She is the co-author of *The Composting Toilet System Book* and *Liquid Gold: The Lore and Logic of Using Urine to Grow Plants*. As projects director for Ecowaters, a nonprofit public education project, she conducts workshops worldwide.

DAVID DEL PORTO has designed building-integrated ecological water-efficiency solutions since 1972. Founder of the Ecological Engineering Group, Del Porto has advised on projects for Ford Motor Company, Greenpeace International, the National Science Foundation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of the Interior, the Republics of Fiji and Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, Taiwan, public agencies, institutions, municipalities, private companies, and individual property owners seeking innovative water and wastewater solutions and is co-author of *The Composting Toilet System Book* and a contributor to *Water Crisis: Myth or Reality?* (Taylor & Francis, UK, 2004). He presents on sewer alternatives as a guest lecturer at conferences and universities worldwide. A member of the Joint Committee on Wastewater Technology of NSF International, he has been instrumental in changing regulations approving water conservation devices and ecological wastewater recycling systems.