

CH 22 - Sustainable Cities

Urbanization

- Urban areas are town or cities plus their adjacent suburban fringes with populations of more than 2,500 people.
- A rural area is usually defined as an area with a population of less than 2,500 people.
- A country's degree of _____ is the percentage of its population living in an urban area.
- _____, cities that have more than 10 million people, are increasing throughout the world.

Urban Growth

- Urban populations grow in two ways
 - Natural increase occurs when _____ exceed deaths
 - _____ occurs mostly from rural areas
 - People are “pulled” to urban areas for jobs, a better life, and freedom
 - People are “pushed” from rural areas by poverty, lack of land, declining agricultural work, famine, and war

Environmental Pros and Cons

- Urban areas are not self-sustaining, importing _____, water, energy, minerals and other resources
- They also produce enormous quantities of wastes that _____ the air, water and land
- Benefits of urbanization include the preservation of biodiversity and the increased economic feasibility of recycling

Urban Climate

- Cities are generally warmer, rainier, foggier, and cloudier than suburbs and nearby rural areas. Large amounts of impervious surface increase _____.
- The enormous amounts of _____ generated by cars, factories, furnaces, etc, create an urban heat island
- The dome of heat also traps pollutants, creating a dust dome

Noise Pollution

- Most urban dwellers are subjected to excessive noise, the most widespread occupational hazard in the U.S.
- Noise pollution is any unwanted, disturbing, or harmful sound that impairs or interferes with hearing, causes _____, hampers concentration and work _____, or causes accidents

Transportation & Urban Development

- A combination of cheap gasoline, plentiful land, and a network of _____ produces dispersed, automobile-oriented cities with low population density, often called urban sprawl
- There are two main types of ground transportation: individual (cars, bicycles, walking) and _____ (bus, rail)

Rail Systems

- Rail systems fall into three categories:
 - _____ Rail (metro, subway) operates on tunnels or on elevated tracks
 - Suburban or Regional Trains connect the central city with surrounding areas
 - _____ Rail or Trams are modern versions of streetcars

Land-Use Planning

- Land-Use Planning determines the best present and future use of each parcel of land in the area
 - Growth is almost always encouraged because 90% of the revenue that funds infrastructure comes from _____

Smart Growth

- Smart Growth (_____ Land-Use Planning) is one way to encourage more sustainable development.
 - Limits and Regulations on amounts and types of building
 - _____ to encourage mixed-use development
 - Planning to integrate regions and evaluate environmental impact
 - Protection of open spaces
 - Taxes land on value of actual use
 - Tax Breaks for land owners who limit _____
 - Revitalization of existing cities

Creating a Sustainable City

- Ways to make existing and new suburbs more sustainable and livable include
 - Giving up big lawns
 - Building in small _____ so that more community open space is available
 - Developing a town center that is a focus of community cohesiveness
 - Planting lots of new _____ and not cutting down existing ones
 - Discouraging excessive dependence on the automobile and encourage bicycling and walking