Water Quality

Drinking-water quality has an impact on human health in developing and developed countries worldwide. Health officials must consider the resource, supply, and possible contamination of water in communities undergoing transformation. Recreational use of water can have benefits to health as well as adverse health effects if it is polluted or unsafe. Recreational water users may also be exposed to hazards such as excess heat, cold and sunlight.

Case Studies

- Smart Growth Case Studies- Water quality
- Cooperative Planning Yields Smart Growth in Michigan
    - This case study demonstrates how two very different communities—San José, California and Barnstable, Massachusetts—protect water quality while meeting smart growth goals for economic growth and development. This link also contains Webcasts about the Smart Growth in these communities. Furthermore, in the example in Michigan shows how cooperative planning contributed to the implementation of Smart Growth.

Other Resources

- EPA Office of Water
    - The EPA's Office of Water works to ensure drinking water is safe; protect and restore oceans, watersheds, and other aquatic ecosystems; and provide healthy habitats for fish and wildlife, plants, and people. They have numerous links about all things relating to water use on their official homepage.
    - *Managing Wet Weather with Green Infrastructure* is part of EPA's project on Green Infrastructure. This initiative deals specifically with how infrastructure management approaches can help improve water quality.
- WHO has several publications and training manuals on water quality
    - WHO: Water, sanitation and hygiene links to health: facts & figures, November 2004
    - Water, sanitation and health training materials