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Sustainable Planet: Issues and Solutions for Our Environment's Future [book review]

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[Print](#)**Sustainable Planet: Issues and Solutions for Our Environment's Future.** 2v.**Ed. by Barbara J. McNicol.**

Apr. 2021. 687p. ABC-CLIO, \$204 (9781440855702). 363.7.

[REVIEW](#). First published July 21, 2021 (Booklist Online).

This two-volume set of 700-plus pages addresses several themes relating to sustainability, or the ability for ecosystems, societies, and economies to persist and be resilient in the future. The themes are common to sustainability discussions, and include cities, water resources, energy issues, climate change, waste, conservation, biodiversity, and citizen involvement. Contributors are mainly academics, government scientists, and practicing professionals, yet the text is edited for general readers. Each theme has a two- to four-page introduction, followed by a more extensive discussion of key concepts. Following are three short essays (five to six pages each) and three country studies (eight to nine pages each) relating to the theme, each written by a different contributor. Further reading lists of as many as 10 references are regularly provided, mainly consisting of websites, books, and governmental or organizational reports. The strength of this work is that it provides a good introduction to sustainability issues, particularly for those interested in one or two of the sets' main themes, though the eclectic perspective of contributors, and the specific examples used for the essays and country studies, makes the transition between themes more difficult.

— *Kevin McDonough*
