

April 2014 issue of CHOICE.

51-4457

TD388

MARC

Pentland, Ralph. Down the drain: how we are failing to protect our water resources, by Ralph Pentland and Chris Wood. Greystone Books, 2013 . 290p index ISBN 9781926812779, \$32.95; ISBN 9781926812786 e-book, \$32.95

Pentland (water and environmental policy consultant) and Wood (journalist) address an issue of growing concern: the protection of water resources. Their book seeks to answer the important and timely question, "Can Canadians be confident that [their] water is safe to drink today and secure for tomorrow?" Though their inquiry is through the lens of Canada, it is a relevant book for the entire world, considering the link between water resources and broader concerns for ecosystem and human health. The issues they raise focus primarily on water quality--the safety of drinking water in urban and rural systems, the prevalence of pollutants of emerging concern, and how impacts of global climate change will continue to impact water sources. The authors present ample evidence to show that Canadians should be more concerned about water quality and security issues than they currently are. They conclude that the issues are too big to ignore and that how Canada, and other countries throughout the world, will fare rests largely on political will. Written in a journalistic style, the book is accessible and engaging. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Lower- and upper-division undergraduates, general readers, and professionals/practitioners.

-- E. S. Norman, Michigan Technological University