

# Situating Environmental Crisis

Contemporary environmental discourse is dominated by talk of crises. When it comes to problems like toxic waste, species extinctions, and global warming, many people ask, "What can we do, and where do we begin?"

Unfortunately, these important questions often seem unanswerable because of the abstract and disconnected way we speak about environmental crises. To find answers, we may need to situate a crisis in particular places. Doing this lets us see how biophysical, historical, political, and cultural factors shape both the reality and the perception of the impending disaster. Perhaps after we have situated an environmental crisis, we will better understand what we can do about it.

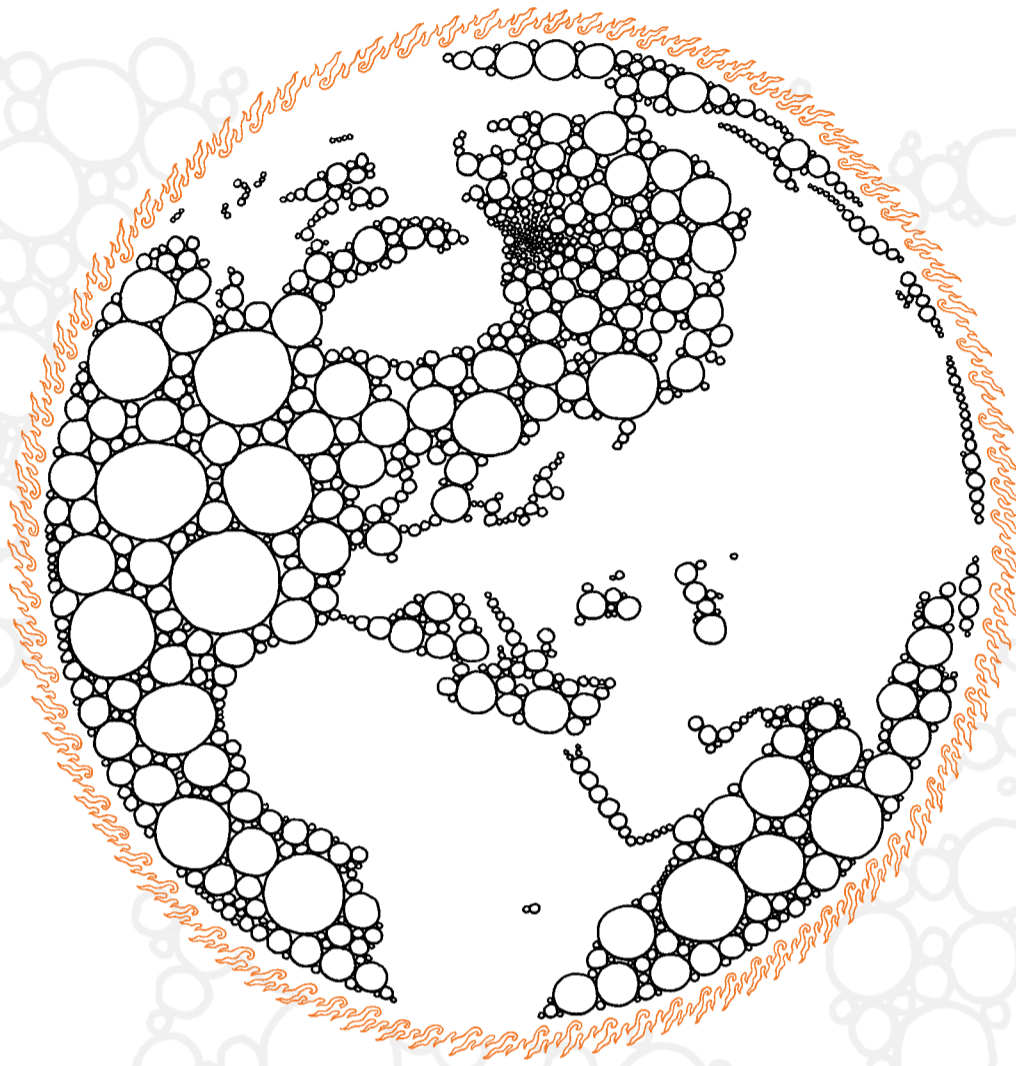


Illustration by Joey Edwards '08. 100% postconsumer fiber. 9/07



## 10th Annual Symposium on Environmental Affairs

### Keynote addresses

Evening keynote lectures by two prominent intellectuals who work in the field of environmental studies will be held in Templeton Campus Center, Council Chamber. Each lecture will be followed by a reception.

### "Crisis and Sustainability: Lessons From the Environmental Movement in India"

Ramachandra Guha, freelance writer and historian, Bangalore, India  
Tuesday, October 2, 7 p.m.



### "Moving Beyond Crisis: Toward Sustainable Knowledge"

Naomi Oreskes, professor of history and science studies, University of California at San Diego  
Wednesday, October 3, 7 p.m.

### Sessions

Tuesday, October 2, 4 p.m.  
Templeton Campus Center, Stamm Dining Room

#### Situating Environmentalism

What is an environmentalist these days? The so-called environmental movement takes different forms across the globe. Join keynote speaker Ramachandra Guha, an expert on environmental movements around the world, and Portland community members who do environmental work to discuss what makes an environmentalist.

Wednesday, October 3, 4 p.m.  
Templeton Campus Center, Stamm Dining Room

#### Situating Environmental Science

How has environmental science created, promoted, or denounced mainstream and academic notions of crisis? Join keynote speaker Naomi Oreskes, professor of history and science studies, as well as experts from the Portland community to discuss the role of environmental science in framing crisis.

Thursday, October 4, 4 p.m.  
Albany Quadrangle, Smith Hall

#### Responding to Situated Crisis

Where do we go from here? Join us while student facilitators work with breakout groups to forge new narratives and plan new strategies of addressing crisis. Guha, Oreskes, and discussion panelists will be in attendance and respond to breakout group presentations.

Lewis & Clark College  
October 2-4, 2007

Free and open to the public ■ Parking is \$4 before 4 p.m., \$2 from 4-7 p.m., and free after 7 p.m.  
Information: 503-768-7719 or [www.lclark.edu/dept/envs/symposium.html](http://www.lclark.edu/dept/envs/symposium.html)

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