

# **Chapter 1 Understanding Our Environment**

The study of environmental science is interdisciplinary in nature. It is important to understand how and why the environmental movement started, and to know the historical contributions many individuals have made.

Our society and planet will continue to face many environmental problems. Global climate change, habitat alteration, deforestation, the many forms of pollution, and food production are just a few of the myriad of issues challenging the conservation of the environment. We all need to take ownership of the environmental issues and promote solutions to these problems.

The idea of sustainable development and sustainability is integral to environmental science. Keep this in mind throughout the course.