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# State Library of Iowa

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The **Executive Orders of four Iowa governors**: Tom Vilsack, Terry Branstad, Robert D. Ray and Harold Hughes - are now available on the Law Library's Web page at <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/services/law-library/govexecorders> .

The Executive Orders of additional governors will be added in the future.

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State employees can have the information resources they need **sent directly to their offices** by State Library staff at no charge. Here's how:

-search our online catalog of books and documents at <http://catalog.lib.state.ia.us> and click on 'Request Item'

-find citations to journal articles or reference works in our online resources at <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/services/resources> and send an e-mail to [ill@lib.state.ia.us](mailto:ill@lib.state.ia.us) to request that the item be sent to you

-send your list of references or a journal citation from another source to [ill@lib.state.ia.us](mailto:ill@lib.state.ia.us)

Tell us who you are and where to send the materials and we'll get them to you as quickly as possible.

For questions or service via the phone call 515-281-6920 or 800-248-4483.

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The State Library of Iowa now gives you access to EBSCOhost's new full text consumer health online database called **Consumer Health Complete**.

This health reference service covers all areas of health and wellness from mainstream medicine to complementary, holistic, and integrated medicine. Topics include aging, cancer, diabetes, drugs & alcohol, fitness, nutrition and dietetics.

Resources include:

- consumer health encyclopedias and reference books
- 4,100 evidence-based full text health reports written for the lay person covering diseases, conditions, injuries and procedures
- articles from health-related periodicals and consumer health pamphlets and leaflets from recognized health organizations
- consumer-friendly drug information resources
- 5,000 Spanish-language health reports and a Spanish-language health newswire

To access Consumer Health Complete using your State Library card number go to [www.statelibraryofiowa.org](http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org) and click on 'Online Resources' in the left sidebar. Then click on 'EBSCOhost' under database services and enter your number.

If you don't have a card and would like to register for one, click on 'State Library Card' on the left sidebar of the State Library's Web site [www.statelibraryofiowa.org](http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org).

For more information, or for assistance with medical research contact the State Medical Library at 515-281-5772, 800-248-4483, or e-mail [medical.library@lib.state.ia.us](mailto:medical.library@lib.state.ia.us).

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Check out the list of books below on **energy and other environmental issues** ranging from global warming to the world-wide effects of hurricane Katrina. These titles can be checked out from the State Library through our online catalog at <http://catalog.lib.state.ia.us>. Search for the title and click on 'Request Item'. You will need a State Library card number to log in, then tell us where to send the item. Or call 515-281-4102 or 800-248-4483.

If you don't have a State Library card go to our home page [www.statelibraryofiowa.org](http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org) and click on 'State Library Card'.

***High Tech Trash: Digital Devices, Hidden Toxics, and Human Health***  
by Elizabeth Grossman. 2006

Disposal bins for the cartridges used in computer printers are becoming commonplace in office-supply stores, and some manufacturers pay the postage for shipping spent cartridges back for proper handling, but what about old computers themselves? How dangerous is the material that goes into them, and what happens to it when the whole caboodle gets thrown out? In this book, journalist

Elizabeth Grossman issues a warning against "e-waste": plastics, batteries, flame-retardant chemicals and more. She notes that the environmental harms of the Digital Age "are now being felt by communities from the Arctic to Australia, with poorer countries and communities receiving a disproportionate share of the burden." -- *The Washington Post's Book World/washingtonpost.com*

### ***An Inconvenient Truth***

by Al Gore. 2006

"Our climate crisis may at times appear to be happening slowly, but in fact it is happening very quickly-and has become a true planetary emergency. The Chinese expression for crisis consists of two characters. The first is a symbol for danger; the second is a symbol for opportunity. In order to face down the danger that is stalking us and move through it, we first have to recognize that we are facing a crisis. So why is it that our leaders seem not to hear such clarion warnings? Are they resisting the truth because they know that the moment they acknowledge it, they will face a moral imperative to act? Is it simply more convenient to ignore the warnings? Perhaps, but inconvenient truths do not go away just because they are not seen. Indeed, when they are responded to, their significance doesn't diminish; it grows." -- Al Gore

### ***Kicking the Carbon Habit: Global Warming and the Case for Renewable and Nuclear Energy***

by William Sweet. 2006

Polar icecaps are melting, ocean levels are rising, greenhouse gas emissions are accelerating—and, says Sweet, the villain of catastrophic climate change is coal, whose sooty carbon emissions make it the single worst energy source. That's the essence of science journalist Sweet's sweeping survey of the America's energy options. He's no fan of oil but acknowledges that its use is too entrenched in our car-driven culture for consumption to be cut anytime soon. He's pessimistic about the time line for implementing fuel-cell technology and sees no fast fix through solar power. And while he agrees that natural gas is cleaner than oil or coal, transmission and storage costs, as well as Chinese and Indian competition for supplies, limit its usefulness for America. That leaves wind generation, among the cleanest energy sources, and nuclear plants, perhaps the most feared, as his chosen methods for powering America's future. Sweet points to Denmark and Great Britain among countries turning to wind farms as a major source of electric power. And in an argument that will dismay many, he cites the Chernobyl nuclear disaster as an aberration in the generally safe record of nuclear energy. It's a grim but realistic assessment. -- *Publishers Weekly*

### ***The Storm: What Went Wrong and Why During Hurricane Katrina: The Inside Story from One Louisiana Scientist***

by Ivor van Heerden and Mike Bryan. 2006

This serious, scientific explanation of what exactly happened in the hours-and years-leading up to Hurricane Katrina's devastation of New Orleans brings a fresh perspective to a tragedy that has generated remarkably similar news accounts over the past eight months. Van Heerden, Deputy Director of the Louisiana State University Hurricane Center, gives a passionate, rigorous account of what went wrong in New Orleans that, if admittedly non-objective, is a noble and credible call for truth and accountability Long recognized by FEMA as one of the three most likely and dangerous disasters threatening the country, the possibility of a hurricane like Katrina was ignored by corrupt politicians and discounted by residents tired of past evacuations (George, Floyd, Ivan, and Rita) that in hindsight seemed unnecessary. Technical details threaten at times to overwhelm readers interested in the

human story of the storm, but van Heerden manages to navigate the narrow path that fuses scientific data with a gripping narrative worthy of a Tom Clancy thriller. Informative and emotional, Van Heerden's book sheds new light on one of the most destructive-and important-natural disasters to hit the U.S. in modern history, and is a must-read for anyone truly interested in the facts behind Hurricane Katrina. --*Publishers Weekly*

***When Rivers Run Dry: Water, the Defining Crisis of the Twenty-first Century***

by Fred Pearce. 2006

From the Amazon to the Nile, the Congo to the Colorado, the rivers of the world are running dry. Forget oil: nations have gone to war over water rights and access in the past, and may be forced to do so again as the availability and purity of this vital resource continues to decline. Unlike fossil fuels, water is considered a renewable resource, an erroneous belief that has contributed to its abuse and misuse by superpowers and Third World countries alike. Yet as aquifers are tapped to extinction, rivers dammed to depletion, and wetlands converted to deserts, societies continue to employ the profligate water management techniques that created the current dire situations. Former New Science news editor Pearce cogently presents the alarming ways in which this ecological emergency is affecting population centers, human health, food production, wildlife habitats, and species viability. Having crisscrossed the globe to research the economic, scientific, cultural, and political causes and ramifications of this under publicized tragedy, Pearce's powerful imagery, penetrating analyses, and passionate advocacy make this required reading for environmental proponents and civic leaders everywhere. -- *Booklist*

For more books on these subjects available at the State Library go to [www.statelibraryofiowa.org/services/gov-management/enviro-list/view](http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/services/gov-management/enviro-list/view).

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**OTHER SERVICES** that the State Library provides free of charge:

\*The **State Data Center** is your source for accurate and up-to-date statistics about Iowa. There is extensive data on the Web site at [www.iowadatacenter.org](http://www.iowadatacenter.org) such as statistical profiles of Iowa communities and special populations. For more information call 515-281-4102, 800-248-4483 or e-mail [census@lib.state.ia.us](mailto:census@lib.state.ia.us).

\*Search for full-text journal articles and research using our **online resources** at <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/services/resources> .

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