

Throughout chapter 1.3, the authors seem to suggest that soils receive minimal attention compare to water and air. Why do you think this is the case? Should soils receive equivalent attention to water and air?

Do you think the authors proposed definitions of urban soils are appropriate (page 46 /47)? How else might you define urban soils?

Chapter 1.3.2 discusses the pollution of urban soils and soil contamination pathways. Do you feel there is any way to decrease the containments entering the soil? Is it worth it?

On page 54 the author discusses the application of soil concept maps as a way to protect soils. Do you feel these concept maps are viable in an already urbanized environment?

What are the possible negatives of cities having lower evapotranspiration rates compare to more rural areas for human health? What about other organisms? Positives?

Both chapter 1.3 and 1.4 discuss the sealing of soil through man made substances. Generally, this is referred to in the negative. Is there any case in which sealing of soil may be promoted?

What are possible downsides to using permeable pavements in urban settings if there are any?

Do you feel we are close to obtaining near natural water balances in urban environments? How could we improve on the urban landscape to reach this goal?

When comparing urban sprawl and densification which do you feel would have a better influence on soils and hydrological processes? What are the positives and negatives of each on theses specific aspects of urban ecology?