

## CHAPTER OVERVIEW

### 8: The Five Environmental Spheres and Biogeochemical Cycle

“In addition to water, air, solid earth, and life, a fifth sphere of the environment must be considered, the anthrosphere consisting of the things made and used by humans. The anthrosphere has such a profound influence that we are now entering a new epoch, the anthropocene in which Earth’s environment will be largely determined by human activities.

[8.1: Five Environmental Spheres](#)

[8.2: The Hydrosphere](#)

[8.3: The Atmosphere](#)

[8.4: The Geosphere](#)

[8.5: The Biosphere](#)

[8.6: The Anthrosphere](#)

[8.7: Cycles of Matter](#)

[Questions and Problems](#)

[Supplementary References](#)

---

This page titled [8: The Five Environmental Spheres and Biogeochemical Cycle](#) is shared under a [CC BY-NC-SA 4.0](#) license and was authored, remixed, and/or curated by [Stanley E. Manahan](#).