

Chapter 14 Section 2 Notes

Urbanization – movement of people from rural areas to cities; characterized by development

The Urban Crisis

- cities suffering from urban crisis may have:
 - traffic jams
 - substandard housing
 - polluted air and water
- infrastructure – all of the things a society builds for public use
 - ex) roads, bridges, sewers, transportation systems, schools, fire stations, and hospitals

Urban Sprawl - rapid expansion of a city into the surrounding countryside; when people move from cities to land that was previously used for food production and open space

Development on Marginal Lands

- suburbs often built on marginal lands
- marginal land – land that is poorly suited for building
 - ex) an area prone to landslides

Other Impacts of Urbanization

- heat island – increased temperature in a city due to generated and trapped heat; they can affect weather patterns over a city

Urban Planning

- land-use planning – advanced decisions about how land will be used; developers, environmentalists, citizens, business people, and public officials

Technological Tools

- geographic information system (GIS) – computerized system for sorting, manipulating, and viewing geographic data
 - ex) detailed maps showing the locations of sewer lines, roads, and parks

Transportation

- mass transit systems

Open Space

- Adding green spaces (open spaces) to urban areas provides environmental benefits and improves them by moderating the temperature, controlling rainwater runoff, and adding aesthetic value.