

Reflection Post #1:

- Due Sunday Sept 10th, 2023 by 11:59pm.
- Submit on Canvas.

The aim of this assignment is twofold: (1) to get you thinking about how the material we are discussing in class is applicable to your day-to-day. And (2) to give us (your profs and TA) a sense of your background and interests.

Step 1: Listen to 1 of the 2 assigned podcasts.

- Sensing Air Pollution Exposure in New York City Schools, with Beia Spiller ([here](#))
- How much is a tree worth?, with Hannah Druckenmiller ([here](#))

Step 2: Write a short paragraph to respond to each the following reflection prompts. (Aim for your total response to be around ½ page, single-spaced. Please don't go over a page.)

1. *Resources Radio* always begins their podcast by asking their guest how they came to work in the environmental field. We want to know the same about you – why are you in this class? How do you currently / did you previously engage with the environment? What do you hope to take away from this course?
2. Both guests discuss the value of environmental quality in our neighborhoods and cities; Dr. Druckenmiller talks about her work on valuing tree cover while Dr. Spiller discusses the important benefits of cleaner urban air. Think about the Georgetown neighborhood. What characteristics of the neighborhood are valuable to you? What characteristics are annoying? Is there a part of the DC metro area that you prefer based on its neighborhood characteristics? What trade-offs would you have to make in order to live/work/study in that neighborhood?
3. As you know likely know, economists tend to be highly interested in empirical analysis; modern sources of data (from remote sensing, digitization, surveys, etc.) have led to a wealth of novel discoveries about the environment, human behavior, and their interaction. The guests on both podcasts vividly describe their involvement in data collection efforts.
 - a. In your own words, describe the guest's process to create and use new data.
 - b. Reflect on your day-to-day life: if there was one type of data you could collect about the natural world, your neighborhood, or your place in it, what would it be?