Welcome to AP Environmental Science. Over the summer, I would like for you to complete a few tasks that should give you the flavor of the class next year. Complete each of the following assignments and turn them in to Dr. Jenkins at the end of the first week of classes. All assignments should be typed.

1. Environmental Surveys / Ecological Awareness
   a. Go to: http://www.nature.org/greenliving/carboncalculator/index.htm and find your individual carbon footprint. Print your results to submit to Dr. Jenkins.
   b. Go to: http://www.myfootprint.org/ and find your ecological footprint. (For # 2 - use the U.S. Measurement System). Print your results to submit to Dr. Jenkins.

2. Current Events in Environmental Science

At some point over the summer, identify an environmentally themed article that interests you. Please provide a hard copy of the article. Your article should be selected from a well-regarded news or science organization. Examples of good sources would include The New York Times, NPR, BBC, Wall Street Journal, Scientific American, etc. If you are having difficulty finding an appropriate article please contact Dr. Jenkins. I will be happy to provide suggestions. Summarize the article in two paragraphs. Then write a response to the article. Your response should include the following: what questions do you have / what is your opinion of the issue / how does the issue impact you / how is the article relevant to an APES course?

3. Tragedy of the Commons

Read the essay “Tragedy of the Commons” by Garrett Hardin. Here is a link: http://www.garretthardinsociety.org/articles/art_tragedy_of_the_commons.html. When you have completed the reading, please respond to the following in complete sentences: What is Garrett Hardin’s central idea in this essay? Do you personally agree with Hardin’s central idea? Is the “Tragedy of the Commons” unavoidable? Identify one “commons” in your own life (at school, home, work) and explain how it is (or is not) being managed wisely to avoid the situation described in the essay.