

# Environmental Chemistry

environmental problems • chemical approaches

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## Cover

Extremophiles are organisms that thrive in extreme conditions, e.g. low pH, high salinity, high temperature. The chemistry of how these organisms survive is the focus of this Research Front, pp. 75–110.

Cover photograph: Devil's Kitchen, USA, taken by Dr Steve Boyer © 2006.



Vehicle exhaust, wood smoke and cigarette tar have all been linked to increases in respiratory diseases and lung cancer. Valavanidis et al. (pp. 118–123) report that such airborne particulate matter contains quinones and quinoid radicals. These species can generate reactive oxygen species that damage cellular proteins and DNA.

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