Term
Disproportionate Impact (of minority populations)
Definition: Refers to communities of low income and/or color and in the presence of high-risk environmental hazards. Those communities in the presence of environmental and human health hazards are more at risk of developing chronic health problems or experiencing environmental racism due to their surroundings than other parts of the country.
Environmental Justice
Definition: Environmental Justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, culture, national origin, income, and educational levels with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of protective environmental laws, regulations, and policies. Acronym: EJ
Fair Treatment
Definition: Fair treatment, in regards to EJ, means, no person or group should bear a greater share of negative environmental impacts that result from environmental programs.
Meaningful Involvement
Definition: The National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) suggestions for public involvement include: (1) Encourage public participation in all aspects of environmental decision making. (2) Encourage active community participation. (3) Institutionalize public participation. (4) Recognize community knowledge. (5) Utilize cross-cultural formats and exchanges.