



ES Seminar

Title:

Necessities, Obstacles and Parameters of Greywater Treatment in Informal Bedouin Villages

Speaker:

Joshua Inkeles, Master's student at the Environmental Studies concentration in the Albert Kats School for Desert Studies; **Supervisors: Yodan Rofe` and Clive Lipchin**



Abstract:

Persistent nonrecognition of Bedouin land by the state has left the informal Bedouin villages of the Negev without formal water disposal systems. As a result, the health of the local population remains at risk of contamination from unsafe disposal. Though efforts have begun in some recently recognized villages to connect residents with treatment facilities, the process of centralization is slow, expensive, and may prove a less effective and less appropriate sanitation means compared to decentralized methods.

This research intends to look at both the technical and social aspects of decentralized wastewater treatment, with specific regard for the Bedouin populations of the Negev. Four households will be tested for blackwater and greywater quality in order to ascertain necessary treatment efficiency. Sites along the Hebron streams will be tested as well to determine what impact untreated effluent may have on the watercourse. Additionally, over the course of the survey, interviews will be given to community members, as well as activists and experts in both Bedouin affairs and water management. Both the questions of whether decentralized wastewater management is feasible as well as how it should be implemented are expected to be answered via the results of this study.

