Cynthia Barnett
Author, *Blue Revolution: Unmaking America's Water Crisis*

Cynthia Barnett is a long-time journalist who has reported on freshwater issues from the Suwannee River to Singapore. She is the author of *Blue Revolution: Unmaking America's Water Crisis*, which calls for a water ethic for America.

Blue Revolution was named by the *Boston Globe* as one of the top 10 science books of 2011. The *Globe* describes Ms. Barnett's author persona as "part journalist, part mom, part historian, and part optimist." *The Los Angeles Times* writes that she "takes us back to the origins of our water in much the same way, with much the same vividness and compassion as Michael Pollan led us from our kitchens to potato fields and feed lots of modern agribusiness."

Ms. Barnett's previous book, *Mirage: Florida and the Vanishing Water of the Eastern U.S.,* won the gold medal for best nonfiction in the Florida Book Awards and was named by *The St. Petersburg Times* as one of the top 10 books that every Floridian should read. *Mirage* was also a "One Region/One Book read in thirty Florida counties.

Ms. Barnett worked for newspapers and magazines for 25 years and now focuses full-time on books. Her numerous journalism awards include a national Sigma Delta Chi prize for investigative magazine reporting and eight Green Eyeshades, which recognize outstanding journalism in 11 southeastern states.

She earned her bachelor's in journalism and master's in environmental history, both from the University of Florida, and was the recipient of a Knight-Wallace Fellowship at the University of Michigan, where she spent a year studying freshwater supply.

Ms. Barnett lives in Gainesville, Florida, with her husband and two water-loving grade-schoolers. For more information, please visit the author's website at www.cynthiabarnett.net.

"As Aldo Leopold is to the land ethic, Cynthia Barnett is to the water ethic. Her important and hopeful new book is rich with stories about innovative water projects around the world, demonstrating that we *can* choose thrift over waste, water gardens over cement ditches, local projects over mega-industries, smart over incredibly, stubbornly, self-destructively stupid. She calls us to a respectful water use that restores our spirits, even as it creates thriving biocultural communities. If you use water, you should read *Blue Revolution***."—Kathleen Dean Moore, coeditor of *Moral Ground: Ethical Action for a Planet in Peril*

"Aldo Leopold helped found twentieth-century American environmental thinking with his call for a land ethic. Barnett has done a great service by calling for a twenty-first-century water ethic. She tackles America's illusion of water abundance in the way past thinkers attacked our old ideas about an endless western frontier. Of the new crop of books on water, this one may be the most important."—**Fred Pearce, author of *When the Rivers Run Dry***

"Barnett's clarion call to her fellow citizens imagines an America where it's ethically wrong to waste water. Using compelling stories from around the globe, she shows that America's future depends upon our coming to value water – not only in the price we pay, but with profound appreciation for each drop."—**Robert Glennon, author of *Unquenchable: America's Water Crisis and What to Do About It***

"The roots of a new water ethic are found in the practices of millions of individuals, businesses, and other organizations around the world. Barnett shows how good water use practices can go viral, with massive benefits for society and nature. *Blue Revolution* offers affordable, practical, down-to-earth solutions for America's water crisis."—**Stephen R. Carpenter, Director of the Center for Limnology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Winner of the 2011 Stockholm Water Prize**

"In the days before the Internet, books like Rachel Carson's Silent Spring and Marjory Stoneman Douglas' River of Grass were groundbreaking calls to action that made citizens and politicians take notice. *Mirage* is such a book." —***St. Petersburg Times,* review of *Mirage***