Vocabulary/Ch. 13

Friedland

**biomass**: The total mass of all living matter in a specific area

**nonrenewable energy source**: An energy source with a finite supply, primarily the fossil fuels and nuclear fuels

**potentially renewable**: An energy source that can be regenerated indefinitely as long as it is not overharvested

**nondepletable energy source**: An energy source that cannot be used up

**renewable**: In energy management, an energy source that is either potentially renewable or nondepleatable

**energy conservation**: The implementation of methods to use less energy

**tiered rate system**: A billing system used by some electric companies in which customers pay higher rates as their use goes up

**energy efficiency**: The ratio of the amount of work done to the total amount of energy introduced to the system

**peak demand**: The greatest quantity of energy used at any one time

**passive solar design**: Construction designed to take advantage of solar radiation without active technology

**thermal initia**: The ability of a material to maintain its temperature

**biofuels**: Liquid fuels created from processed or refined biomass

**modern carbon**: Carbon in biomass that was recently in the atmosphere

**fossil carbon**: Carbon in fossil fuels

**carbon neutral**: An activity that does not change atmospheric CO2 concentrations

**net removal**: The process of removing more than is replaced by growth, typically used when referring to carbon

**ethanol**: Alcohol made by converting starches and sugars from plant material into alcohol and CO2

**biodiesel**: A diesel substitute produced by extracting chemically altering oil from plants

**flex-fuel vehicle**: A vehicle that runs on either gasoline or ethanol

**hydroelectricity**: Electricity generated by the kinetic energy of moving water

**run-of-the-river**: Hydroelectricity generation in which water is retained behind a low dam or no dam

**water impoundment**: The storage of water in a reservoir behind a dam

**tidal energy**: Energy that came from the movement of water driven by the gravitational pull of the moon

**siltation**: The accumulation of sediments, primarily silt, on the bottom of a reservoir

**active solar energy**: Energy captured from sunlight with intermediate technologies

**photovoltaic solar cells**: A system of capturing energy from sunlight and converting it directly into electricity

**geothermal energy**: Heat energy that comes from the natural radioactive decay of elements deep within Earth

**ground source heat pumps**: A technology that transfers heat from the ground to a building

**wind energy**: Energy generated from the kinetic energy of moving air

**wind turbine**: A turbine that converts wind energy into electricity

**fuel cell**: An electrical-chemical device that converts fuel such as hydrogen, into an electrical current

**electrolysis**: The application of an electric current to water molecules to split them into hydrogen and oxygen

**smart grid**: An efficient, self-regulating electricity distribution network that accepts any source of electricity and distributes it effectively to end users