

Pollution Notes and  
Human Impact on the Environment

Deep Thought ?  
What is Greenhouse Gas?

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**Natural Resource** - a resource used by living things from nature that are NOT man-made.

**Renewable Resource** - something from nature that can be used and reused in less than 100 years. (trees, air, water, etc.)

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**Non-Renewable** - things that are used once in a lifetime. They will take 100 years or more to get these resources back. (fossil fuels - oil, natural gas, precious metals, coal, petroleum, etc.)

**Deforestation** - when man removes all plant matter and the soil is exposed to wind and water erosion. (HABITAT LOSS! - main reason for a decrease in a population.)

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**Water Pollution** - when waste and chemicals are added to water. (household cleaners, oil and gas spills, etc.)

**Air Pollution** - When chemicals are added to the air. (smoke, carbon, exhaust, etc.)

**Acid rain** - when chemical pollutants mix with precipitation and fall back to Earth. Damages plants and organisms.

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**Greenhouse Gas Effect:**

Greenhouse gases are gases that trap the sun's energy and use it to warm up the Earth's surface. Some may destroy the Ozone layer of gas (which keeps out UV Rays) and then these holes allow more light energy in from the sun which also warms the Earth.

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**Clean Air Act of 1972:**

This important legislation helps us govern the health of the Nation's Air and Water!

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**Soil Pollution** - when chemicals and waste is put into the ground. (oils, chemicals, gas, non-biodegradable waste, etc.)

**Landfills** - usually a safer way to hold and dispose of waste.

**Pollutant** - ANY material that can interfere with the life process of living things. Any contamination of Earth's water, land and air.

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**Natural Pollutants** - things that interfere with life processes that come from nature. (Soil dust, sea salt spray, volcano ash, etc.)

**NUMBER ONE cause of air pollution is the automobile.**

**Smog** - a mix of smoke and fog. Common in humid, damp air, cities.

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**Best Area for a landfill/dump - empty field far from water and people.**

Pollutants can travel through a food chain or web and the level of toxins (pollutants) will increase as you move through the chain or web. So in this web which has the highest pollutant?

small aquatic insect - frog - fish - water bird?

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**Flooding is caused by:**

1. Developments (housing or town)
2. Removal of aquatic plants that absorb water
3. Filling in Wetlands
4. Deforestation

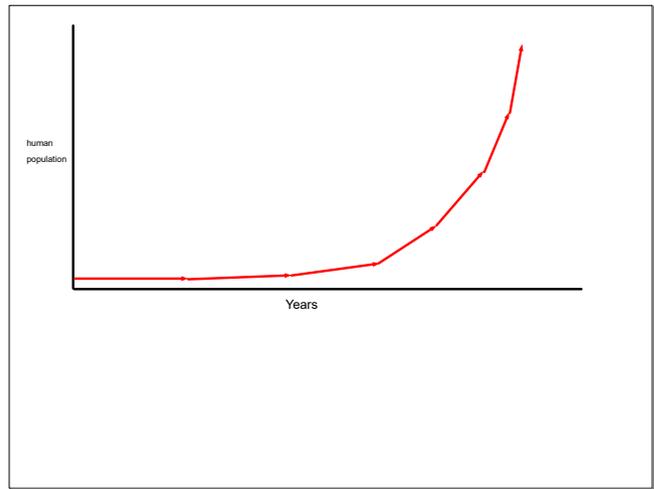
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**Abiotic and Biotic Relations:** Deer drinking water

**Abiotic and Abiotic Relations:** Sun evaporating water

**Biotic and Biotic Relations:** Coyote eating a rabbit.

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