

# Environmental Issues

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In recent years, a large number of critical issues regarding the environment that have previously been overlooked have begun surfacing and are being brought to attention. These problems have slowly been accumulating throughout human history, with effects quickly escalating the more developed we become. Major ones, such as pollution and climate change, are the more significant matters that take priority when confronting these issues. Should these environmental concerns remain neglected, the human population could be facing a possibly disastrous future.

The most prominent issue that stands out is pollution. Humans produce an inconceivable amount of waste on a daily basis, which is extremely detrimental to the environment as waste is discarded into the ocean and land. Such actions have brought about the eradication of countless ecosystems, which has most likely caused imbalance in nature. Waste disposal taints the environment, with chemicals and such causing infertility of land or mutations in fish who consume said chemicals. Additionally, there is also air pollution. The leading culprits being industrial and vehicular smoke, they exist in our daily lives and are unavoidable as they are essential to modern society. Pollution in the air include particles and harmful substances which can cause disease and even death to those exposed to prolonged inhalation. In a 2014 WHO report, it was stated that 7 million deaths worldwide were linked to air pollution.

Another distinctive issue the world is currently facing is climate change, the changing of climate patterns that are expected to occur every few decades to millions of years. However, due to the rapidly increasing global warming, the process of climate change has begun to speed up drastically, with changes even becoming apparent every year. Fluctuating temperature and erratic weather across the world is occurring right now, inducing disasters such as hurricanes, droughts, or heat waves. With disasters becoming

more frequent, many nations, especially developing ones, face the constant struggle of trying to restore itself and uphold its economy while also aiding its citizens. If this continues, even more powerful countries may succumb to the wrath of nature as the climate rapidly changes.

The problems mentioned, pollution and climate change, are some of the more concerning of the countless different issues occurring around the world. Although they have gone unnoticed throughout most of human history, the increasing severity has finally brought these issues to light. Despite being known to most people, little action is made to prevent them, and they are still ignored by the masses.