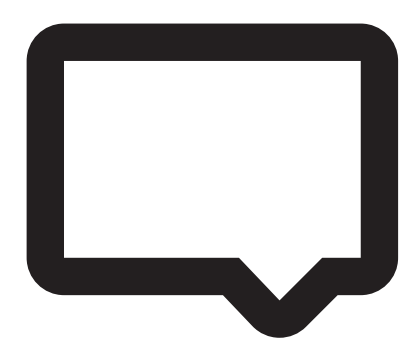
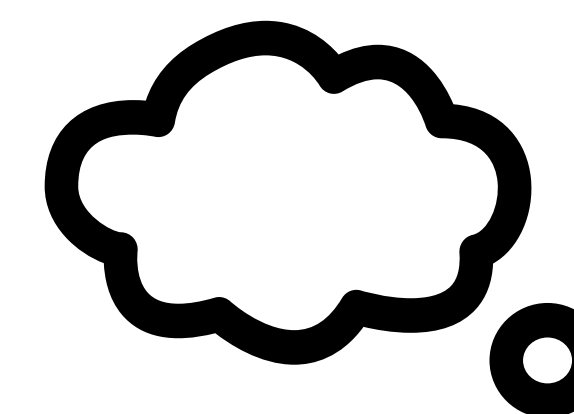


Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) is a gas molecule composed of three oxygen atoms. Often called photochemical "smog," **ozone is harmful to breathe**. Ozone aggressively attacks lung tissue by reacting chemically with it.

Ozone can be "good" or "bad" for health and the environment depending on where it's found in the atmosphere. Stratospheric ozone is "good" because it protects living things from ultraviolet radiation from the sun.



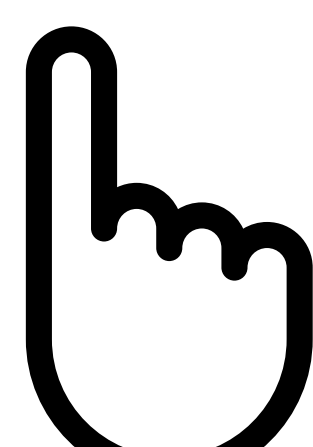
Says



Thinks

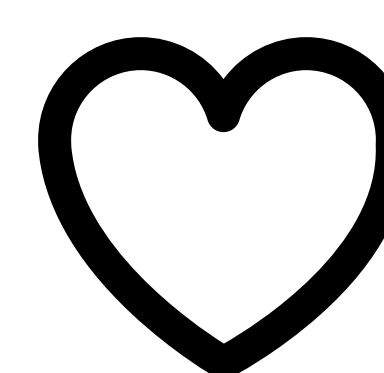
Ozone

Does



Concerns that increased UV radiation due to ozone depletion threatened life on Earth, including increased skin cancer in humans and other ecological problems, led to bans on the chemicals, and the latest evidence is that **ozone depletion has slowed or stopped**.

Feels



Ozone can cause the muscles in the airways to constrict, trapping air in the alveoli. This leads to **wheezing and shortness of breath**. Depending on the level of exposure, ozone can: Cause coughing and sore or scratchy throat.