Three-Column Chart:

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| Causing Pollution | Wasting Resources | Burning Fossil Fuels |
| Humans can cause pollution, or the dirtying of water, air, and natural landscapes, by not disposing of trash properly. | Earth’s freshwater supply is small. It is on this supply that humans, animals, and plants depend on for clean freshwater. | Human society is increasingly dependent on fossil fuels to supply energy. Fossil fuels are mined out of the earth. |
| Many forms of trash, especially plastics, take thousands of years to break down. | However, many farms, cities, and homes use way too much freshwater than is necessary. | This mining causes water pollution. Burning fossil fuels releases carbon dioxide into the air. |
| So when humans throw plastic into landfills or oceans, the plastic may stick around for thousands of years. | This is mainly in part to bad habits, such as leaving the tap on and taking too long baths and showers. | Carbon dioxide is a greenhouse gas. This gas goes into the atmosphere and traps heat from the sun. |
| This is bad news for animals who mistake the trash they see as food. | Humans also waste other resources, including fossil fuels. | This extra heat from the sun is causing global climate change. |
| The trash and plastic may also crowd out plants and block sunlight from them. | One example in which humans waste fossil fuels is by leaving the lights on. | Humans are trying to use cleaner sources of energy, such as wind and solar power. |

Two-Column Chart:

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| How It Works | Advantages |
| Nuclear energy is a type of energy source that uses the energy stored inside an atom. | Nuclear energy does not put carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. |
| A process called nuclear fission occurs in this type of energy source. | Instead, the nuclear waste at the end can be safely disposed of. |
| Here, the nucleus of an atom splits apart and releases a huge amount of energy. | The fuel, uranium, produces a huge amount of heat energy. |
| This heat energy turns water into steam, which turns a generator. | Just one pound of uranium produces as much power as a million tons of coal! |
| The generator rotates inside the magnetic fields between two magnets, creating electricity in the process! | Soon, nuclear energy could be the form of energy that will power everything for humans, from heat to transportation. |