



How Human Activities Produce Greenhouse Gases

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What is this slideshow about?

This slideshow is about the major causes of greenhouse gases, types of fossil fuels that are used in everyday life by people which cause greenhouse gases, and how deforestation can be a problem. It will also discuss daily human activities that produce greenhouse gases.





What is a Greenhouse Gas?

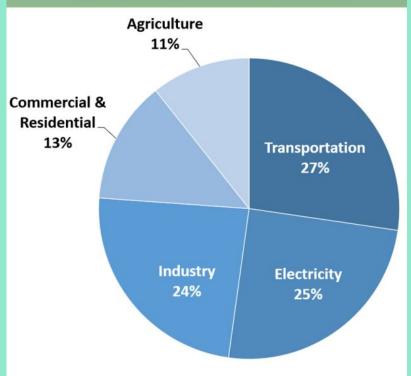
A greenhouse gas is a gas that absorbs and emits radiant energy within the thermal infrared range, causing the greenhouse effect. The primary greenhouse gases in Earth's atmosphere are water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and ozone. These gases trap or absorb heat in the atmosphere. They hold onto that heat energy for a much longer period of time than do other atmospheric gases. The Greenhouse Effect is a process that's important to Earth since it regulates Earth's temperature. Although, as the time passed humans have been increasing the atmospheric concentration of greenhouse gases which has caused higher temperatures leading to global warming. More greenhouse gases have been emitting and those gases trap more and more heat in the atmosphere.

What are the major causes of greenhouse gases?

Human activities are the major causes of greenhouse gases. Humans generate greenhouse gases (like carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and water vapor) every day, the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions from human activities is carbon dioxide, which comes from burning fossil fuels for electricity, heat, and transportation. Oil, natural gas, and coal, which we need in our everyday lives to produce electricity and other, emit the most carbon. Methane is also emitted during the transport of coal, natural gas, oil, and from agricultural activity. To summarize, primary sources causing greenhouse gas emissions are transportation, electricity production, agriculture, land use, and forestry.

Causes of Greenhouse Gases

Total U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Economic Sector in 2020



(Source) - Transportation was 27% of gas emissions, primarily coming from burning fuels, emitting CO2. Industry was 25% of reactions needed to produce goods. Commercial/Residential was 13%, gas emissions came from burned fossil fuels



Fossil fuels



Coal, oil, and natural gas are fossil fuels that are used the most throughout our everyday lives be people. These fossil fuels are found in the Earth's crust and can be burned to produce energy, which can cause greenhouse gases. Burning fossil fuels can be really bad for our environment, fossil fuels releases a lot of carbon dioxide into the air, increasing greenhouse gases. Then, those greenhouse gases trap heat in our atmosphere, leading to global warming. Although using fossil fuels can be bad for the environment, people continue to use them because they are useful. After being burned to produce heat, fossil fuels can produce electricity and also be used to power engines. Other fossil fuels are petroleum, bitumens, tar sands, and heavy oils.

What is Deforestation and why is it a problem? Deforestation is the action of clearing a wide area of trees, in other words, it simply means cutting down trees. Deforestation is a big problem, not only does it affect the climate, but it is another action that increases greenhouse gases. Humans aren't the only ones causing deforestation, there are also natural causes like forest fires and parasite-caused diseases. It is important to keep in mind that trees absorb/store carbon dioxide. Getting rid of trees can have a really negative impact on the environment. It would mean that the carbon dioxide being stored would be released into the atmosphere again and there would be less trees to store CO2, affecting the climate.

Human Activities That Produce Greenhouse Gases

There are four main greenhouse gases that humans generate, Carbon Dioxide, Methane, Nitrous Oxide, and Fluorinated gases. The largest source of greenhouse gas emissions from human activities is carbon dioxide, which comes from the burning of fossil fuels. We use fossil fuels in our daily lives for our cars, trucks, and other vehicles, this is where greenhouse gas emission from transportation mainly comes from. Deforestation is also a source of carbon dioxide, when trees are taken down, the stored carbon is released, increasing greenhouse gases. Agricultural activity and transport of coal, natural gas, and oil can cause Methane emissions.

Reducing Greenhouse Gases Produced

There are many climate disasters around the world due to global warming and reducing the amount of greenhouse gas produced can have a great impact on the environment. Reducing carbon emissions can allow us to have clearer air and can cause a positive impact on global warming by lowering temperatures. It can also allow us to be healthier, having healthier air, water, and food. There are different ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. There are simple things you can do like turning off the lights or electronics when they aren't being used, this reduces your energy consumption. Driving efficiently, solar panels, and energy-saving appliances are also examples of ways to reduce greenhouse gases emitted.

Quiz Question #1

What greenhouse gases do humans generate?

Quiz Question #2

What human activity creates the most greenhouse gas emissions?

Quiz Question #3

How do increased greenhouse gases in the atmosphere lead to warmer temperatures?

Personal Opinion

I found this topic very interesting, I've always wondered how global warming functioned or why temperatures increased, and doing research for this presentation helped me understand more about this situation. I think it is important that more people are aware of greenhouse gases, how it affects our environment, and why it is important to reduce it. As I was doing research, I was shocked to find out how warm temperatures were caused by greenhouse gases increasing and trapping more heat in the atmosphere. I believe deforestation is an important topic that people should also be more aware of.