

GLOBAL WARMING

It has been a controversial issue for so long and no one has given this much attention to it until now. It has caused an observed increase in the average temperature of the earth's atmosphere and oceans over the last 50 years; it has been attributed to the disastrous things humans have done to the earth atmosphere, plants and animals. The major cause of this horrifying issue is the increase in carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases like anthropogenic aerosols (fossils fuel and burning of biological materials used as fuel for industrial production) in the atmosphere.

It is the increase in green house gases and carbon dioxide emitted into the atmosphere; it is the disastrous effect it has had on the earth's atmosphere and all living things. This horrifying issue is GLOBAL WARMING. Global warming makes the worlds temperatures increase, makes sea levels rise, this rise in sea levels distorts rainfall patterns causing floods or droughts, heat waves, hurricanes, tornado's and many other disastrous weather conditions. It has led to glacial melting causing rivers to overflow their banks; this overflowing of river banks was the major cause of the recent well known disasters hurricanes KATHRINA, WILMA and RITA. Other consequences include higher or lower agricultural yields, glacial retreat, reduced summer stream flows, species extinctions and increase in the ranges of disease vectors.

Global warming is expected to affect the number and magnitude of these events. The United Nations Environmental Program recently announced that severe weather conditions around the world have made 2005 the most costly year on record. Although there is "no way to prove that a given hurricane was ,or was not affected by global warming", global warming is thought to increase the probability of hurricanes emerging preliminary estimates presented by the German insurance foundation Munich Re put the economic losses at more than \$200billion, with insured losses running at more than \$70billion.

Apart from the destabilizing the weather patterns and a rise in sea levels, global warming has resulted in financial costs. According to the reports by UK Economist Sir Nicholas Stern commissioned by the British government, "it calculates that the global cost of climate change could run to \$9trillion and it warns there is only a small window of 10 to 15 years to address the problem" before it gets out of hand.

Heat stress and other heat related health problems are caused directly by very warm temperatures and high humidity. Untreated heat stress can be a very serious medical problem. Scientists suspect that in many places, climate change will increase the number of very hot days that occur during the year. More hot days increases the possibility of heat related health problems. Man has done a lot to destroy the atmosphere and despite knowing what ought to be done to prevent global warming and its disastrous effects, still people continue in the same road. Sad to say the United States being at the forefront of anti global warming campaigns is also "the world's biggest polluter". The United States has proven to be the most educated nation concerning global warming and still pollution by this same country is on the increase. Each American gives three times greener house gases than any other country. Most countries if not all look to America in hopes of limiting or providing the answer to global warming, sadly emissions are on the increase. Although the United States is the biggest polluter , according to the electricity forum "China is destined to become the worlds biggest polluter within 15 years", still many out there do not believe in pollution as being the cause of global warming , some do not even believe in global warming at all.

People who oppose the reality of global warming believe that science hasn't reached the stage where they are able to provide people with solid answers to all the major questions about the global climate, other opponents say global warming is just a man made scientific consensus for attention and so there is no need to take action. They also feel that since global warming causes an increase in carbon dioxide which would be beneficial to plant life; it would then be good for agriculture leading to more profit for the economy.

Another point opposed brought up is the question of the accuracy of the rise in temperature records. They say if the monitoring stations are located in more populated areas, they must be influenced by the increased heat from cities which is known as "Urban heat island effect".

Since climate science cannot give definitive predictions yet, since computer models used to make these predictions are still evolving and do not yet take into account recently discovered feedback mechanisms then, global warming predictions cannot be trusted. Although all these opponents give strong views and evidence of global warming being a myth, the truth is more evident. The first argument in opposition to global warming was that science isn't competent enough to provide all the answers to global warming but literally thinking, science has sent man to space, has put man on the moon, is able to forecast weather conditions and even clone humans, really, what stops man from being able to give reasons for global warming.

Science has found out what makes climate change and has been able to control it to an extent (green house gases cause climate change), since green house gases contribute to global warming, simply curbing the emission of green house gases would reduce global warming. Although all these arguments give logical explanations as to whether or not global warming is an advantage, still we see the effects; in the long run the disadvantages far outweigh the advantages so global warming should be taken seriously.

To solve the problem of global warming, we also need to clean up electrical power plants. More electric utilities still use coal to produce electricity, spewing millions of tons of carbon dioxide and other pollution into atmosphere every year. Part of the problem could be solved by converting these plants to burn cleaner these plants to burn cleaner natural gas. We could do much more to save energy in our homes office buildings. More energy efficient lighting, heating and air conditioning could keep millions of tons of carbon dioxide out of our air each year. Part of the problem could be solved by converting these plants to burn cleaner natural gas. We could do much more to save energy in our homes and office buildings. More energy efficient lighting, heating and air-conditioning could keep millions of tons of carbon dioxide out of our air each year which prevent atmosphere depletion.

Right away we should put existing technologies for building cleaner cars and more modern electricity generators into widespread use. We can increase our reliance on renewable energy sources such as wind, sun and geothermal. We can manufacture more efficient appliances and conserve energy. Reuse, recycle and reinvest. Move closer to nature, conserve and practice a lifestyle less dependent on fossil fuel and electricity. Most resources can be used either four ten times greater efficiency, which will create many more good jobs worldwide while preserving lifestyle and planetary vitality.

Learning about the environment is very important. There is many good books that will help you learn. Whenever we use electricity, we help put green house gases into the air. By turning off lights, the television and the computer when you are through with them, you can help a lot.

Planting of trees are fun and a great way to reduce greenhouse gases forming the air? Recycle cans, bottles, plastic bags and newspapers. When you recycle, you send less trash to the landfill and you help save natural resources like trees, oil and elements such as aluminium. There are lots of ways we can improve the environment. One of the ways to reduce the amount of greenhouse gases that we put into the air is to buy product that doesn't use as much energy. By conserving energy, we help reduce climate change and make the earth a better place. Some products like certain cars and stereos are made specially to save energy. All of these contribute to a cleaner environment and reducing GLOBAL WARMING