

## Environmental Protection

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**Abstract:** All human activities have an impact on the environment. Each individual has an “Ecological Footprint” that represents the sum of that person’s resource use and contributions to pollution. Environmental protection possesses many challenges in today’s society. More recently, as knowledge has spread about boundaries and global environment problems increased, people have begun seeking wide spread preventive and remedial actions to ensure that natural conditions remain conducive to life and human well being. So there is an increase in the respond to these demands by policy makers who understand that environmental protection should be addressed in a holistic and expansive manner. The word ‘environment’ applies to all that surrounds a central point and includes the aggregate of natural, social, and cultural conditions that influence the life of an individual or community. The science of ecology recognizes that all environmental milieus (air, water, soil) and all species are interdependent. So any harm to one aspect of the environment, is thus likely to have broad and unforeseen consequences on other dimensions of nature, including, human well-being. A toxic chemical at a gold mine, for example, not only will pollute the near by soil, but also can enter streams and rivers, be transported to the sea, and enter the food chain through absorption by plants and animals. Another truth is that many exploited resources are non-renewable and hence exhaustible to the extent that even using resources may become extinct. Since every living species in the world depends completely on Earth’s ecosystem and the services they provide such as food, water, disease management and climate regulation, spiritual fulfillment and aesthetic enjoyment, it is the responsibility of all human beings to protect and save the environment from being destroyed. So the paper attempts to discuss some aspects about environmental protection.

**Keywords:** Environment, ecological footprint, pollution, protection, global environment, non-renewable, exhaustible, spiritual fulfillment, and aesthetic.

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### I. Introduction

Environmental protection is a practice of protecting the natural environment on individual, organization controlled on governmental levels, for the benefit of both the environment and humans. Due to the pressures of overconsumption, population and technology, the biophysical environment is being degraded, sometimes permanently. This has been recognized, and pranith have begun placing restraints on activities that cause environmental degradation. Since the 1960s, activity of environmental movements has created awareness of the various environmental problems. Earth is, perhaps, the only planet endowed with an environment and we all share it. One day we would pass it on to our future generation as their legacy. But if they will inherit such a polluted environment, life will be misery for them. Men has improved the technologies and other means necessary for higher production of wealth and exploited nature for his benefits, but without any foresight as to what to implications of his actions would be. Indiscriminate industrialization has resulted in urban migration and slum development, which in turn resulted in degradation of environment.

Before the advent of modern civilization man lived and flourished amidst the nice balance of multiple biological processes. As the most intelligent being on earth man has constantly tampered with the nature making use of his inventive genius and disturbed the ecological balance. Thus, air, water and soil, all have got polluted and posing threat to the substance of mankind. The result is numerous health problems.

#### **Importance of Environmental Protection:**

##### **To protect/save our lives:**

The environment supports the life of each and every living thing on earth. We rely on the environment for life. When it is protected we are assured of better health, Food, quality air and so much more. As the late professor Wangari Mathai said and I quote, “if we destroy the environment, the environment will destroy us.” This is so true because it is the environment that sustains our life.

##### **The Environment has suffered due to the scientific inventions:**

A lot has been discovered over the years. Many of these inventions tend to be harmful to the environment, though it is a way of the human race trying to make their life better. Factories have been built in so many places around the world. The emission of harmful gases into the air is on the increase. The dredging of oil in the sea is also another case. Trees are being cut down to create space for more land. With all this going on, the environment remains at mercy for protection.

**Discharge of carbon gases:**

The first thing everyone with a good amount of money is thinking about is how to get a car. The purchase of cars has grown over the years. The worst part is that there are not many cars that are environment friendly. Most of them use fuel which when burnt, releases carbon into the air. Factories are also playing a role in this. Carbon gases are not in any way friendly to the environment and this is why we need to protect it.

**Use of low grade plastics:**

The chemicals that go into making plastics is highly toxic and it poses serious threats to the environment. The burning of plastics during their production and even after use releases toxic fumes into the air. The toxins can also leak into the soil and ground water causing contamination. This makes it difficult to grow plants and even pose a challenge to hormones in many living things.

**Biodiversity is important:**

For the environment to be a better place to live, biodiversity has to be a part of it. In science it is said that during the day, plants use carbon dioxide, while humans breathe in oxygen and breathe out carbon dioxide. This is a form of exchange plan. Plants help to reduce carbon dioxide in the air, which in turn benefits humans. Each living has a role to play in the environment. It makes the world a better place to live in.

**Human moral obligation:**

We owe our existence to the environment. It is our role to ensure that the environment supports us and other living species in a comfortable way. The only way we can pay it back is by protecting it in all ways possible.

**Environmental hazards are dangerous:**

When we look at our water bodies, they have become dumping grounds for dangerous chemicals. Most factories throw their waste into the lakes and oceans. These chemicals end up in the food web such as mercury in fish. These foods end up on our plates and the end result could be serious diseases. The air we breathe in and what our skin comes into contact with is crucial. When we have harmful gases in the air it is a threat to life.

**How to protect the environment?**

The following **protective and control measures** are aimed at environmental protection.

**Reforestation:**

Trees are very important. They play a great role in air purification; they are water catchment areas and a home to many other living species. The more trees we have the purer the air and the less the chances of having water problems. Animals also have their own habitat in the forests.

**Use green technologies:**

Factories should try to go green. Use more environmentally friendly gases that are not harmful. Wind energy is one way to go about it. Solar energy is also an applicable method. Use of renewable energy will reduce the harmful chemicals.

**Useless chemicals in factories:**

When the chemicals are less, this means that waste is also minimal. Not only the factories, but also those who do farming. Most of the pesticides and fertilizers used in farms end up in water bodies. It is important to use a reasonable amount that will not be harmful.

**Sharing car or public transport:**

Since cars are a major air pollutant, trying to minimize the number of cars on the road is important. People can choose to use more of public transport. Families can share cars rather than each member of the family having a car or use bicycles where possible.

**Create awareness:**

It is important to educate people on the importance of environmental protection. The little things people do will do a long way in environmental protection. Encourage them on the importance of reusing and recycling. Encourage use of energy savers as well as collecting rain water. It is also important to educate on animal conservation as well as taking part in tree planting programs. There are so many organizations all over the world that are planting trees in the aim of saving the world.

**Be sustainable:**

Try as much as possible to reduce or eliminate waste and use the environment in an eco-friendly way. Sustainability means reducing the use of natural resources so as to reduce the chances of depleting them. Use more of fluorescent tubes, use rechargeable batteries, use renewable energy, and use renewable bags for shopping are some of the ways to be sustainable.

**Plant tress along beach side:**

Sea beaches are low-lying lands that are bear. Planting trees in these areas will play a great role in protecting the environment. They can serve as air purifiers and reduce the chances of harmful waste reaching the sea and oceans. They will also serve the purpose of preventing dunes.

**II. Conclusion**

The environment is very important for the existence of life. It supports living things and protecting it should be our first priority. Without a conducive environment, we run the risk of extinction. It is good to understand that it is the environment that supports us and not vise versa. In conclusion, there are several factors described above that strongly supported the argument to fight for environmental protection and create a better environment. Some of the reasons include environmental air pollution which increases the concentration of carbon dioxide that caused the formation of acid rain. Another reason is one of the side effects like global warming caused by the deforestation which increases the global temperature caused the occurrence of ice melting. Moreover, the global warming change the climate become warmer and flood encouraged the growth of the pests and vectors like malaria and dengue fever to spread the disease out to the environment which increases the level of biochemical oxygen demand. Therefore, the environment should be protected for a better life in future.

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