

# Science Notes

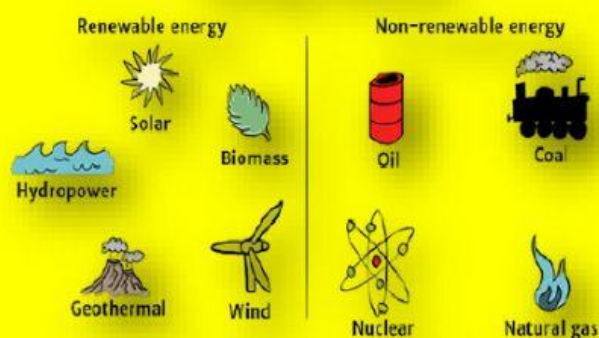
## TOPIC: AIR POLLUTION

**Natural resources** are materials found in the environment that are useful to humans. Natural resources can be grouped as renewable or nonrenewable.

**Renewable resources** can be replaced or used over and over. **Soil, air, water, and trees** are renewable resources.

A **nonrenewable resource** is a resource that cannot be replaced easily or reused. **Fossil fuels**, such as **oil, coal** and **natural gas** are examples of nonrenewable resources.

### Renewable and Non-Renewable Energy Sources



When natural resources such **as, air, soil** and **water** become polluted, they are unsafe for use. **Pollution occurs when harmful substances contaminate the air, land or water.** The harmful substances are **pollutants**. Air can be polluted in several ways.

- ✚ the pumping of exhaust fumes from motor vehicles
- ✚ smoke stacks of factories and ships
- ✚ smoke from cigarettes are common causes of air pollution.

When these **pollutants** mix with water vapour in the air, they produce **acid rain**. **Acid rain can contain a combination of gases and solid particles that produce smog.**

## LAND POLLUTION

**Air** can also be polluted by the addition of **chlorofluorocarbon (C.F.C.'s)**. These are gases used in:

\*refrigerators

\*air conditioners

\* fire extinguishers





They float to the top of the atmosphere and breakdown the *ozone layer*. This allows **harmful radiation** from space to enter the atmosphere. The radiation causes **humans to develop cancer**.

Another *harmful effect of air pollution* is the: "**greenhouse effect**". This is the trapping of heat in the atmosphere. The land is also being polluted. *Garbage from homes and businesses and chemical wastes from industry and farming* are being dumped into and on the land. Land pollution can be reduced in a number of ways including the use of specially designed landfills and leak proof cans.

## WATER POLLUTION

Most of the water on earth is **salt water**. Both salt water and fresh water are being **polluted** by a variety of sources including:

- \*sewage
- \*garbage
- \*chemicals, like motor oil, bleach
- \*and other chemicals fishermen use to catch fish.

**Pollution** promotes *breeding of vectors* and also provides *vectors with homes*. Some items that pollute the resources are **biodegradable**, but others are **non biodegradable**.

**Conservation** is the wise use of natural resources. Resources can be conserved by:

- + reducing (use only what is needed)
- + reusing (use things again)
- + recycling wherever possible

