

Footprints on the Sands of Time

The human footprint impacts all of nature's elements: earth, water, air, and the species with whom we share the planet. Every step we take tramples Earth's beauty, but still it finds the valor to bear, and forgive. It's time to move from EGO to ECO!

Pesticides. Antibiotics. Bio-magnification. Resistance. Toxins. As we attempt to make our world more livable for ourselves we neglect the affect we have on many organisms and their ecosystems. Our carbon footprint affects organisms and their ecological food chains due to the large amount of toxins found in the atmosphere; caused by pesticides. As the cycle sustains its energy, bio-magnification continues to haunt the top consumer; humans. As the dangers of the human footprint increases, so does the invasion of many harmful species that do not have an impact on chemical toxins; this is caused by pesticide resistance. Prevent this contortion by sustaining organic products as a regular utility. Using a compost bin to create compost material, produces non-toxic fertilizers, needless the use of harsh pesticides. This organic matter produced from the compost bin, is a great use of natural garden soil which will produce fresh toxin free food right from your backyard. For healthier choices; grocery shopping is a great way to identify organic food. Organic products are generally more expensive, but very useful. To make a difference, my family consumes organic products for the great health benefits and the conservation of the Earth.

Deforestation has led to 60% of the original forests in Canada to be cut. Fewer trees causes an increase of carbon dioxide in the air. We can protect our Earth by reducing and preventing clear-cutting of forests, by making sure we use less products containing wood. By my influence of technology, I make sure to inform my peers to reduce the use of paper and continue with our use of technology. I feel it's important to buy recycled wood products and support brands with zero deforestation policies. By getting others to do the same thing, we can inform companies to produce a deforestation-free future, which will reduce the impact on our human footprint.

The water is a transparent layer of underlying truth which reveals the harmful truth of our human footprint. The Chennai 2015 Flood, may seem like an unbearable natural disaster that killed more than 250 lives and crippled buildings, but the disaster started due to the impatient greed of humans. The negligent drainage systems and numerous structures to support the population, was the leading cause of destruction for the flooding in India. Worldwide, our human footprint continues to haunt bodies of water, through coral reef, animal habitat and niche destructions. An average of 353 million gallons of oil flows through runoff, into our lakes and oceans per year. Oil spills harm many organism by contaminating their homes. Acid rain is another harmful factor of destruction for our Earth, through atmospheric pollution caused by the burning of coal and fossil fuels. Using car washes instead of washing cars at home, can prevent dangerous toxins found in soap and cleaning supplies to flow down the drain into our sewage system. A variety of these situation may seem miniature, but the final impacts would turn out to be colossal.

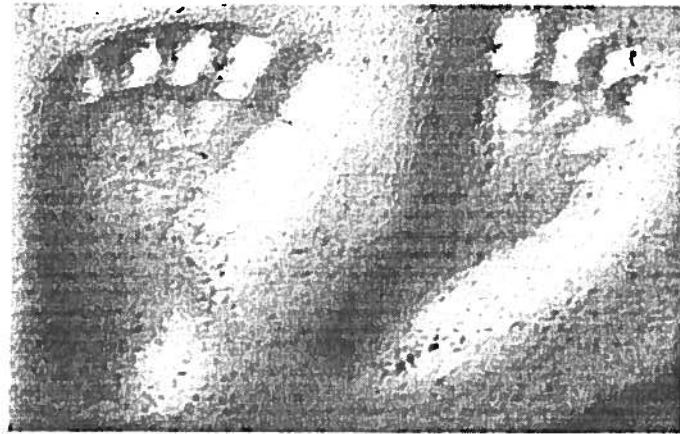
The air surrounding the Earth has stimulated powerful punishments by the abuse caused by humans. Factory pollution is a gargantuan conflict in the world and is the number one source of pollution in the United States. Air pollution leaves an inerasable imprint on our carbon footprint. It's odious how air pollution in China is related to around 656,000 deaths every year throughout the country. Prevent air pollution by walking or biking instead of using cars. I admit the fact that I have a drive when I go to school, even though I could bike or take the bus; this is something I should change to help decrease my impact

on our human footprint. The human footprint continues to destroy our ventured galaxies as well. From space sciences to water on mars; humans destroy our whole Universe through pieces of space machinery that harms the Earth. A hunk of space junk was expected to fall to Earth in a spectacular light show near my native home of Sri Lanka on Friday, November 13th, 2015.

An abominable fact proves that electricity used in a single home, contributes to 12% of effects on our carbon footprint. The liberty of a gas emission free Earth, starts with the maintenance on an immensely relied resource; electricity. Decrease the use and temperature of air conditioners and heaters. Remember to take into consideration, the use of low energy lightbulbs. As the inhabitants in the era of technology, I believe it's important to consume our time into an invention that prospers our world for the decrease of our human footprint. I will take on leadership and host conferences and events for the sustainability of our carbon footprint, and inspire many people to do so as well. To reduce the rocketing of our carbon footprint, it's important to consider it upon our individual values to unplug all electric appliances when not in use.

A date that should definitely be marked for the history of Canada; November 30, 2015. The climate change meeting was perished with the summit of France, through the help of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. The young leader vowed to inspire Canadians into identifying their full potential to reduce our carbon footprint. Actions have been taken, and as a pleased Ontarian, I am proud to say that Ontario is building transit friendly cities to cut down on vehicle emissions and helping businesses, to reduce their carbon footprint. Most importantly, we've ended coal-fired electricity generation in the province!

Let's dispose our ignorance and believe in the importance of moving from EGO to ECO! Let's pay respect and assistance for our home, by concealing the assassin of our human footprint.



Swetha Prakash

Age: 5 days.

This is how small I want our human footprint to be!