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Let's not beat around the bush. Fifteen thousand medicinal plants in the world are on the verge of extinction due to pollution caused by population growth and rapid industrialization. Each dying also produces a ripple effect; for every plant disappearing, scientists estimate that up to 30 species of flora and fauna are at risk. Fortunately, this ancient city in central Turkey can be a good place to start change - it is the hometown of St. Basil the Great, the patron saint of reformers. - Abha Bhattarai Martin Ruegner/ Choice Photographer/Getty Images

Some of the main causes of air pollution include burning fossil fuels, agricultural activities, exhaust from industry, vehicle fumes, mining operations and indoor pollutants. Air pollution has a negative impact on the environment and life in general. Air pollution can lead to negative effects such as global warming, respiratory and heart complications, acid rain, ozone depletion and habitat destruction. Fossil fuels produce high levels of carbon. Carbon is quite toxic and has a negative impact on the environment. The burning of agricultural products and the spraying of chemicals on crops are just some of the things that cause air pollution. The toxicity of such chemicals can persist in the air for a long period of time, causing negative effects on wildlife and other vegetation. In the production process, factories eventually emit large amounts of toxic fumes. These vapors can cause acid rains and destroy a layer of ozone. Cleansers, air fresheners and consumables contain toxic substances that are deposited into the air. As humans remove minerals and other substances from the earth, the use of heavy machinery is common. ThoughtCo uses cookies to give you a great user experience. Using ThoughtCo, you accept our use of cookies. Since about the 1970s, we have made significant progress on the environmental front. Federal and state laws have significantly reduced air and water pollution. The Endangered Species Act has made notable strides in protecting our most threatened biodiversity. However, there is a lot of work to be done, and below is my list of major environmental challenges that we now face in the United States. While climate change has effects that vary by location, everyone feels it anyway. Most ecosystems can probably to climate change to the point, but other stressors (like other issues mentioned here) limit this ability to adapt, especially in places that have lost a number of species already. Mountain peaks, prairie potholes, Arctic and coral reefs are particularly sensitive. I argue that climate change is the number one problem right now as we all feel more frequent extreme weather events, phenomena, spring, melting ice, and rising seas. These changes will continue to be stronger, which will have a negative impact on the ecosystems we and the rest of the biodiversity rely on. Natural spaces provide habitat for wildlife, space for forests to produce oxygen, and wetlands to purify our fresh water. This allows us to hike, climb, hunt, fish and camp. Natural spaces are also a limited resource. We continue to use land inefficiently, turning natural spaces into cornfields, natural gas deposits, wind farms, roads and subdivisions. Inadequate or non-existent land-use planning continues to lead to the expansion of suburbs, supporting low-density housing. These changes in land use are a fragment of the landscape, squeeze wildlife, put valuable property right into bushfire-prone areas, and upset atmospheric carbon budgets. New technologies, higher energy prices and regulatory approvals have significantly expanded energy development in North America in recent years. The development of horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing has led to a boom in natural gas production in the northeast, especially in the Marcell and Utica shale fields. This new experience in shale drilling also applies to shale oil reserves, such as in North Dakota's Bakken. Similarly, over the past decade, tar sands in Canada have been exploited at a much faster rate. All of these fossil fuels must be transported to refineries and markets via pipeline, road and rail. Fossil fuel extraction and transportation involve environmental risks such as groundwater pollution, spills and greenhouse gas emissions. Drilling pads, pipelines and mine fragment landscape (see land use above), cutting wild habitat. Renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar power, are also on the rise and they have their own environmental problems, especially when it comes to positioning these structures on the landscape. Incorrect placement can lead to significant mortality events for bats and birds, for example. A very large number of synthetic chemicals enter our air, soil and waterways. The main sources are by-products of agriculture, industrial operations and household chemicals. We know very little about the effects of thousands of these chemicals, let alone their interaction. Endocrine disruptors are of particular concern. These chemicals come in a variety of sources, including pesticides, plastics decay, fire retardants. Disruptors interact with an endocrine system that regulates hormones in animals, including humans, causing a wide range of reproductive and developmental effects. Plant or animal species introduced into the new area are not indigenous or exotic, and when they quickly colonize new areas, they are considered invasive. The prevalence of invasive species correlates with our global trade activities: more, we we cargo across the oceans, and we travel abroad ourselves, the more we carry back unwanted hitchhikers. Of the many plants and animals we bring, many become invasive. Some of them can transform our forests (such as the Asian long-horned beetle), or destroy urban trees that have been cooling our cities in the summer (such as emerald ash drills). Prickly water fleas, zebra mussels, Eurasian water milfoils and Asian carp are destroying our freshwater ecosystems, and countless fish are costing us billions in lost agricultural production. While this one is not an environmental issue in itself, environmental justice dictates who feels these issues the most. Environmental justice is to give everyone, regardless of race, origin or income, the opportunity to enjoy a healthy environment. We have long been unequal in sharing the burden created by deteriorating environmental conditions. For many reasons, some groups are more likely than others to be in close proximity to a waste disposal facility, breathe polluted air or live on contaminated soil. In addition, fines levied for violations of environmental legislation tend to be much less severe when the affected parties are members of minority groups. More than 10 million people in eight different countries are at serious risk of cancer, respiratory disease and premature death because they live in the 10 most polluted places on Earth, according to a report by the Kuznets Institute, a nonprofit organization that works to identify and address specific environmental problems worldwide. Chernobyl in Ukraine, where the world's worst nuclear accident to date occurred, is the most famous place on the list. Other places are unknown to most people and are located far from major cities and towns, but 10 million people either suffer or risk serious health consequences due to environmental problems ranging from lead and radiation pollution. Living in a city with severe pollution is like living under death, the report said. If the damage does not come from immediate poisoning, then cancer, lung infections, developmental delays are likely to result. There are cities where life expectancy is approaching medieval rates, where birth defects are the norm, not the exception, the report said. Elsewhere, childhood asthma rates are measured above 90 percent, or mental retardation is endemic. In these places, life expectancy can be twice as high as that of the richest countries. The great suffering of these communities exacerbates the tragedy of so few years on Earth. Russia in the list of eight countries, three of the 10 most polluted sites. Other sites have been selected because they are examples of problems found in many places around the world. For example, in Hein, Dominican Republic, has serious lead contamination- a problem that is common in many poor countries. Countries. China is just one of several Chinese cities choking on industrial air pollution. And Ranipet, India is an unpleasant example of serious contamination of groundwater by heavy metals. Top 10 most polluted places in the world: Chernobyl, UkraineDzerzhinsk, RussiaHaina, Dominican RepublicCabwe, zambiaLa Oroya, PeruLinfen, ChinaMaiuu Suu, KyrgyzstanNorilsk, RussiaRanipet, IndiaRudnaya Pristan/Dalnegorsk, Russia Top 10 most contaminated places were selected by the Technical Advisory Board of the Blacksmith Institute from a list of 35 contaminated places that were contaminated from 300 contaminated places identified in the world. The Technical Advisory Board includes experts from Johns Hopkins, Hunter College, Harvard

University, IIT India, The University of Idaho, Mount Sinai Hospital, and executives of major international environmental recovery companies. According to the report, there are potential remedies for these sites. Such problems have been solved over the years in the developed world, and we have the capacity and technology to spread our experience to our affected neighbors. The most important thing is to make some practical progress in combating these contaminated places, says Dave Hanrahan, head of global operations for the Blacksmith Institute. A lot of work is being done to understand the problems and identify possible approaches. Our goal is to instill a sense of urgency in addressing these priority sites. Edited by Frederick Beaudreau environmental pollution filetype ppt. environmental pollution project file. environmental pollution pdf file

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