

Deforestation

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The Importance of Plantation



Deforestation is the removal of trees from forest and converting the forest land for non forest use.

Destroying the forest and convert that for urban use is the best example for deforestation. Clearing Earth's forests results in damage to the quality of the land. Water scarcity happened because of the destruction of rain forests.

Why does deforestation occur?

Cutting of trees happening for many purposes and some are given below.



- Cutting trees for [charcoal](#)
- Selling trees for money
- Make use of fuel or as timber
- [Pasture](#) for livestock
- Agriculture
- Plantations of commodities
- Constructing buildings/bridges
- Natural factors like wildfires
- Overgrazing
- [Corruption](#) of government institutions
- [Population growth](#)
- [Globalization](#)

• According to an estimate, almost 40% forests have been lost in the tropics and 1% forests in the temperate region. In India, at the beginning of twentieth century, forests covered about 30% of land whereas by the end of the century, it reduced to 19.4%. The National Forest Policy (1988) has recommended 33% forest cover for plains and 67% for hills.



Causes for Deforestation

- Forests are converted into agricultural land to feed the growing human population. Forests are cleared for making homes and establishing industries. Trees are felled for timber, fire wood, etc.

Negative effects of Deforestation

- Increase of carbon dioxide concentration
- Loss of biodiversity due to habitat destruction.
- Disturbs hydrological cycle
- Decrease in rain affects the survival of all Earth's organisms
- Soil erosion and it may lead to desertification in extreme cases
- Climate change



- Land becomes desert and unusable for agriculture
- Animals and plants cannot survive
- May lead to extinction of rare plants & rare animals
- Removing trees increase the forest temperature as all living organisms are exposed to sunlight without the shades of trees
- High temperature leads to plants and animals death
- Larger amounts of greenhouse gases entering the atmosphere—and increased speed and severity of global warming
- According to the [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#) deforestation, mainly in tropical areas, could account for up to one-third of total [anthropogenic carbon dioxide](#) emissions



How can we protect Forests?

1. Stop cutting trees
2. Plant more trees by reforestation
3. Manage forest resources

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Reference Links:

- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deforestation>
- <http://environment.nationalgeographic.com/environment/global-warming/deforestation-overview.html>
- <http://www.bcb.uwc.ac.za/envfacts/facts/deforestation.htm>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qzK2XITThZM>

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