

Why Consider Using Eco-Friendly Materials?

There is now a growing consensus among scientists that the state of our planet is in a steady decline. Climate change, pollution, climate change, and depleting natural resources are having a serious negative impact on all species, including humans. The first complete evaluation of the world's major ecosystems, The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, has revealed a number of distressing findings.

A few of these findings as reported by The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment include:

About 60 percent of the planet's "ecosystem services" -- uses of the natural environment that benefit people, such as freshwater for irrigation or ocean fishing, are being degraded or used unsustainably.

Since 1750, atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide has increased about 32 percent primarily because of the burning of fossil fuels and land use changes. About 60 percent of that increase has taken place since 1959.

Between 10 percent and 30 percent of all mammal, bird, and amphibian species are threatened with extinction.

More land has been converted to cropland since 1945 than was cultivated in the 18th and 19th centuries combined. About 30 percent of the Earth's land area is devoted to some kind of agriculture.

The report also states that the "changes stem from attempts to meet growing global demand for food and other natural resources." We are now realizing that we have to change how we live in order to protect and conserve our environment. One way of reducing our impact on the planet is to use eco-friendly materials. Eco-friendly means engaging in activities that are beneficial for the environment.

Using eco-friendly materials helps the environment in many specific ways that include:

The use of fossil fuels is a major contributor to global warming. As well, the toxins emitted from manufacture processing plants contaminate the air, soil, and water. Harnessing the power of the wind and sun, and practicing energy conservation techniques such as energy efficient light bulbs, will help lessen the amount of carbon emissions being released into the atmosphere.

Eco friendly homes and buildings protect natural resources such as forests. Furniture and other products made from trees from sustainable forests help reduce forest depletion. Green buildings also reduce the amount of toxins and biological contaminants being released into the air and water.

Non toxic and chemical free products made from all natural ingredients are designed to improve the health of the environment and people while reducing the negative impact on environment. Using eco-friendly products such as toiletry products, body and face products, natural cleaners, paints, bath products, and other household products decreases the amount of chemicals that the environment, animals, and people are exposed to. This reduces the risk of many health illnesses such as asthma, headaches, skin conditions, cancers, and many other conditions.

Buying products made from recycled materials helps reduce the amount of waste going into landfills, thereby decreasing the amount of land that is cleared to build new landfills. As well, there is less carbon emissions being released into the air because less products are being manufactured.

The growing trend of embracing eco-friendly lifestyles is changing how we live and how items are being manufactured. Using environmentally friendly materials improves the health of the environment, humans, plants, and animals. Adopting a lifestyle where we purchase eco-friendly products and materials is something we can all do to ensure a healthy future for everyone.

About the Author

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