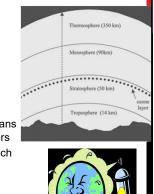
# Climate Change

#### STRATOSPHERIC OZONE DEPLETION 9.1

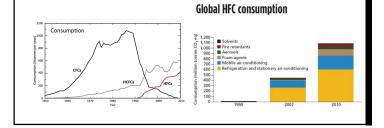
• Protects the Earth's life and health

#### •Ozone is the chemical compound O<sub>3</sub>

- Ozone Layer absorbs most UV
- radiation coming from the sun •Chemicals Can Destroy Ozone
- CFCs chlorofluorocarbons
- CFCs used as propellants in spray cans and coolants in fridges/air conditioners
- It takes 10 -20 years for CFCs to reach the stratosphere from the Earth's surface
- Natural causes like melting of ice crystals in atmosphere at the beginning of Antarctic spring.



## REDUCING OZONE DEPLETION 9.2 Ozone depletion can be mitigated by replacing ozone-depleting chemicals. Using Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) are a good replacement. However, they are strong greenhouse gases.

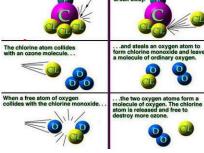


#### **OZONE-DEPLETING SUBSTANCES (ODS)**

#### •CFCs are broken apart in the stratosphere

- · High energy of the UV radiation breaks it down
- The single chlorine from CFC can react with  $O_3$  and changes it, depleting the  $O_3$
- Chlorine (halogen)
   One chlorine atom can break down 100,000
- ozone molecules
- Bromine (halogen)

Ozone depletion



#### **OZONE LAYER**

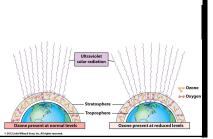
- First noticed in 1970 from satellite photos over the South Pole
- What Causes it?
  - During the cold polar winters, dry stratospheric air over the pole is isolated.
  - Air becomes so cold that it condenses and forms clouds

#### (Polar Stratospheric clouds:

high-altitude clouds made of water and nitric acid at - 80° C)

- Chlorine from CFCs builds up
   on the surface of the clouds
- When the pole begins to warm the chlorine goes back to depleting ozone.

VIDEO ON OZONE DEPLETION



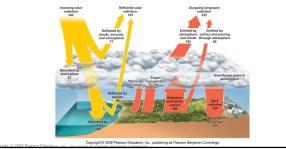
Total Ozone on September 29, 1997

#### OZONE LAYER Negative affects of ozone depletion: • Skin Cancer in humans • Cataracts in humans • Increase in UV radiation can damage organisms DNA • Phytoplankton can be killed by UV The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer is an international treaty designed to protect the ozone layer by phasing out the production of numerous substances believed to be responsible for ozone depletion.

- Many nations banned the use of CFCs in 1992 (US stopped production by 2000)
- CFCs still a problem....Why?
- CFCs molecules remain in the stratosphere for 60 120 years

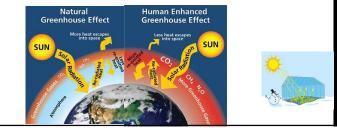
#### What is climate change?

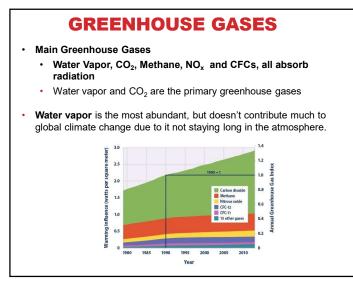
- Global climate change = describes trends and variations in Earth's climate
  - Temperature, precipitation, storm frequency
- Global warming = an increase in Earth's average temperature
  - Earth's climate has varied naturally through time
  - The rapid climatic changes taking place now are due to human activity: fossil fuels, combustion, and deforestation

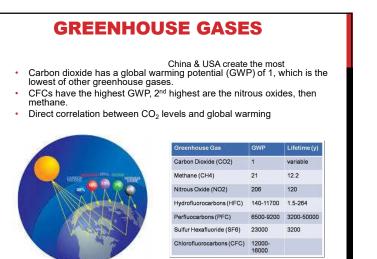


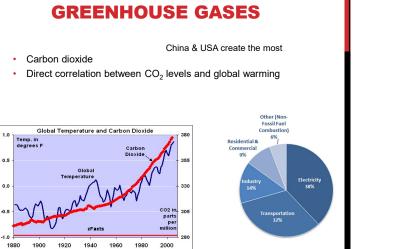
#### **GREENHOUSE EFFECT** 9.3

- Creates Earth's temperature necessary for life.
- The earth is like a greenhouse
- The atmosphere acts like the glass which lets the sun's rays pass through.
- The earth absorbs this as heat energy and keeps it in, only letting a little heat out
  - The gases in the atmosphere absorb the radiation keeping it from escaping out to space
  - This absorption of radiation by gases is called the greenhouse effect

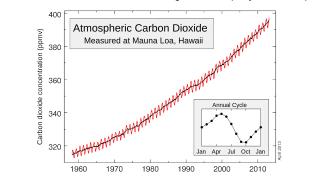


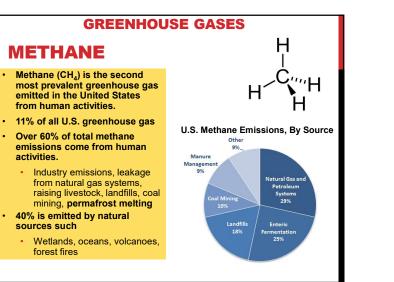






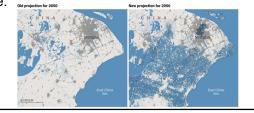
- Since 1958 (in Hawaii) CO<sub>2</sub> levels have been measured reflective of the entire earth (the gases have traveled across the entire Pacific Ocean)
  - Levels are higher in the winter: fewer leaves on the trees (dying grasses and leaves release carbon)
  - General increase because of burning fossil fuels(not just in winter)

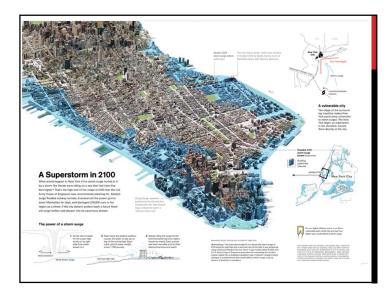




#### **INCREASES IN GREENHOUSE GASES**

- Environmental problems:
  - Rising sea levels resulting from melting ice sheets and ocean water expansion.
  - Disease vectors spreading from the tropics toward the poles.
- These issues can cause changes in population dynamics and population movements in response.





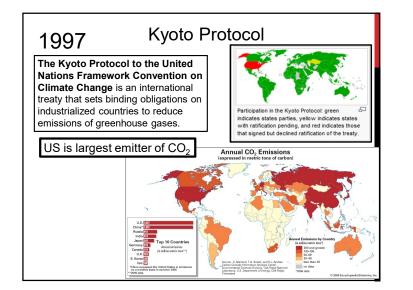
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#### WHAT HAPPENS IF THE EARTH WARMS? Melting Ice and Rising Sea Levels Coastal areas flooded · Nearly 3 billion people live within 100 km of a coast Excess sea water can change freshwater aquifers near coasts **Changing Weather Patterns** · Warming the oceans could change currents that influence weather today Human Health Problems • Deaths due to heat waves i antima a · Longer growing seasons, more pollen, more asthma 1 AT Warmer weather allow mosquitoes and other disease carrying organisms to live longer Agriculture

· May change where plants and animals live

 Heat leads to droughts, severe impact to crops hasing Ice Clip

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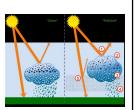
### INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE (IPCC)

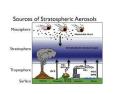
- Has presented a series of reports on the synthesis of scientific information concerning climate change
- Evidence that climate conditions have changed since industrialization has increased
- The IPCC report concludes that average surface temperatures on earth have been rising since 1906, with most of the increase occurring in the last few decades

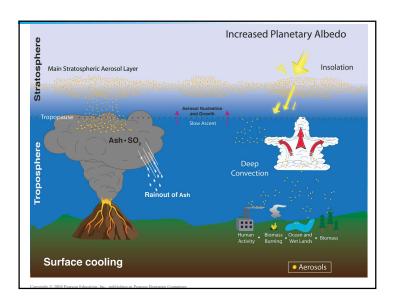


#### Aerosols

- Aerosols = microscopic droplets and particles that have either a warming or cooling effect
- Soot, or black carbon aerosols, cause warming by absorbing solar energy
- Some tropospheric aerosols cool the atmosphere by reflecting the Sun's rays
- Sources of aerosols
  - Volcanic eruptions, fossil fuel combustion, ocean, wetlands, biomass
- Reduce sunlight reaching the earth and cool the Earth





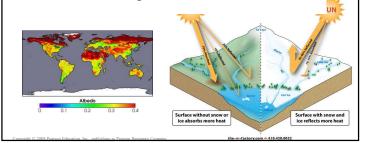


9.6

9.7

#### Albedo Effect

- Ability of a surface to reflect light
- Ice, especially with snow on top of it, has a high **albedo**
- Most sunlight hitting the surface bounces back towards space



#### Ocean Warming

- Increases in ocean water temperature is due to an increase in greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.
- Ocean warming affects marine species.
  - Loss of habitat
  - Metabolic and reproductive changes
- Lead to coral bleaching.
  - Warmer waters kills off algae within coral
  - This causes the coral to bleach white.
  - More genetically tolerant coral will survive, while more sensitive coral die off.

#### Coral Bleaching

#### Causes of decline of Coral reefs around the world

1. Coral bleaching = occurs when zooxanthellae leave the coral

- Coral lose their color and die, leaving white patches
- From climate change, pollution, or unknown natural causes

 Nutrient pollution causes algal growth, which covers coral
 Divers damage reefs by using cyanide to capture fish
 Acidification of oceans deprives corals of necessary carbonate ions for their structural parts

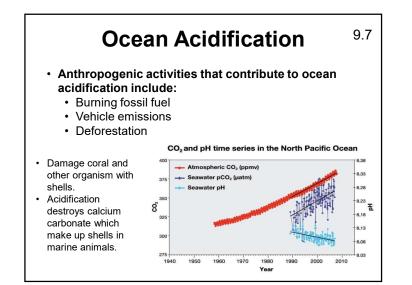


9.6

Artificial Coral Reefs

#### Ocean Acidification

- Oceans becoming more acidic (lowering the pH) as a result of increased carbon dioxide moving from the atmosphere into the ocean.
  - Carbon dioxide reacting with water forms carbonic acids.  $CO_2 + H_2O \rightarrow H_2CO_3$
  - Carbonic acid dissociates into bicarbonate ions and hydrogen ions. H<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> → HCO<sub>3</sub> + H<sup>+</sup>
  - Hydrogen ions then combine with carbonate ions to from additional bicarbonate ions.
     H+ CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2</sup>→ HCO<sub>3</sub>



#### The debate over climate change is over

- Most Americans accept that fossil fuel consumption is changing the planet
- *An Inconvenient Truth* helped turn the tide
  - 84% of people surveyed thought that humans contribute to global warming
  - Many corporations offer support for greenhouse gas reductions



Inconvenient Truth Video

