

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

## **Summer Research Paper**

**Due Date-** 1 week after the start of school

This is a list of environmental issues as they relate to the anthropogenic effects on the natural environment.

- **Climate change** — • Global dimming • Fossil fuels • Sea level rise • Greenhouse gas • Ocean acidification • Shutdown of thermohaline circulation • Environmental impact of the coal industry • Urban Heat Islands
- **Conservation** — Species extinction • Pollinator decline • Coral bleaching • Holocene extinction • Invasive species • Poaching • Endangered species
- **Energy** — Energy conservation • Renewable energy • Efficient energy use • Renewable energy commercialization • Environmental impact of the coal industry • Environmental impact of hydraulic fracturing
- **Environmental degradation** — Eutrophication • Habitat destruction • Invasive species • Soda lake
- **Environmental health** — Air quality • Asthma • Environmental impact of the coal industry • Electromagnetic fields • Electromagnetic radiation and health • Indoor air quality • Lead poisoning • Sick Building Syndrome • Environmental impact of hydraulic fracturing
- **Genetic engineering** — Genetic pollution • Genetically modified food controversies
- **Intensive farming** — Overgrazing • Irrigation • Monoculture • Environmental effects of meat production • Slash and burn • Pesticide drift • Plasticulture
- **Land degradation** — Land pollution • Desertification  
  
**Soil** — Soil conservation • Soil erosion • Soil contamination • Soil salination • Alkali soils \* Residual Sodium Carbonate Index
- **Land use** — Urban sprawl • Habitat fragmentation • Habitat destruction
- **Nanotechnology** — Nanotoxicology • Nanopollution
- **Nuclear issues** — Nuclear fallout Nuclear meltdown • Nuclear power • Nuclear weapons • Nuclear and radiation accidents • Nuclear safety • High-level radioactive waste management
- **Overpopulation** — Burial • Water crisis • Overpopulation in companion animals • Tragedy of the commons • Gender Imbalance in Developing Countries • Sub-replacement fertility levels in developed countries

- **Ozone depletion** — CFC • Biological effects of UV exposure
- **Pollution** — Environmental impact of the coal industry • Nonpoint source pollution • Point source pollution • Light pollution • Noise pollution • Visual pollution  
  
**Water pollution** — Environmental impact of the coal industry • Acid rain • Eutrophication • Marine pollution • Ocean dumping • Oil spills • Thermal pollution • Urban runoff • Water crisis • Marine debris • Microplastics • Ocean acidification • Ship pollution • Wastewater • Fish kill • Algal bloom • Mercury in fish • Environmental impact of hydraulic fracturing  
**Air pollution** — Environmental impact of the coal industry • Smog • Tropospheric ozone • Indoor air quality • Volatile organic compound • Atmospheric particulate matter • Environmental impact of hydraulic fracturing
- **Reservoirs** — Environmental impacts of reservoirs
- **Resource depletion** — Exploitation of natural resources • Overdrafting  
  
**Consumerism** — Consumer capitalism • Planned obsolescence • Over-consumption  
**Fishing** — Blast fishing • Bottom trawling • Cyanide fishing • Ghost nets • Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing • Overfishing • Shark finning • Whaling  
**Logging** — Clearcutting • Deforestation • Illegal logging  
**Mining** — Acid mine drainage • Environmental impact of hydraulic fracturing • Mountaintop removal mining • Slurry impoundments
- **Toxins** — Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) • DDT • Endocrine disruptors • Dioxin • Toxic heavy metals • Environmental impact of the coal industry • Herbicides • Pesticides • Toxic waste • PCB • Bioaccumulation • Biomagnification • Environmental impact of hydraulic fracturing
- **Waste** — Electronic waste • Litter • Waste disposal incidents • Marine debris • Medical waste • Landfill • Leachate • Environmental impact of the coal industry • Incineration • Great Pacific Garbage Patch • Exporting of hazardous waste • Environmental impact of hydraulic fracturing

**Choose one of the topics above or another of your own (teacher approval required) and write a 4-6 page (body of paper) research paper.**

- Thoroughly define/explain the topic and discuss the problem as it relates to the World, U.S, CT and possibly New Britain.
- What are some of the possible ways that your chosen issue could be resolved or lessened?
- What are some of the ways that the average person can help to improve the situation/problem? Include sources the average person could use to find more information or ways to get involved with addressing the issue.

- A minimum of (2) tables, charts, illustrations, etc. must be included along with explanations of them. (These should be also referred to in the body of your paper).
- A title page must be included containing the title/topic, your name, due date, and class.
- A bibliography must be included using APA (or MLA) format and containing a minimum of 4 sources. Be sure to cite your sources within the body of your paper if needed.

**Below is a list of possible web addresses that may be useful. These are neither required nor strongly suggested but merely possible resources.**

<http://www.connecticutmag.com/Connecticut-Today/April-2013/Environmental-Issues-Facing-Connecticut/>

<http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/connecticut/index.htm>

[http://library.thinkquest.org/26026/Environmental\\_Problems/environmental\\_problems.html](http://library.thinkquest.org/26026/Environmental_Problems/environmental_problems.html)

<http://www.globalissues.org/issue/168/environmental-issues>

<http://www.buzzle.com/articles/environmental-issues/>

[http://green.wikia.com/wiki/Category:Environmental\\_Issues](http://green.wikia.com/wiki/Category:Environmental_Issues)

<http://www.environmentconnecticut.org/issues>

<http://www.connecticutmag.com/Connecticut-Today/April-2013/Environmental-Issues-Facing-Connecticut/>

<http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/connecticut/index.htm>

[http://library.thinkquest.org/26026/Environmental\\_Problems/environmental\\_problems.html](http://library.thinkquest.org/26026/Environmental_Problems/environmental_problems.html)

**Questions?** I can be contacted at: [ramsey@csdnb.org](mailto:ramsey@csdnb.org)

