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6th grade
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We Need To Do Better

Vermont is a great place to live, nice people and wonderful communities. But I would say that nature is at least 100 times better (at least to me). I love this place, and you probably do too, judging by the fact that you probably live here. But enough procrastinating let's get on with it. Vermont cares a lot about its environment, we made a whole new holiday based on cleaning it (Green Up Day if you didn't know)! But there are still a lot of things that we could and probably should do to help even more every day.

The first thing that I want to talk about is littering. Yes I know, I just said we have a holiday to solve this problem. But it's still an issue. It's hard to find a road that doesn't have a bunch of trash on the side of it. Most of the litter is cans of beer and soda (at least from my experience) and tires, lots and lots of tires. Maybe to stop this we could raise the fine (And if we don't have a fine make one) for littering in natural spaces or just in general. I find this very sad because we could be reusing those materials for other things.

That is my intro to the next part which is REUSING! Reusing materials is very important to being sustainable. I read only one percent of clothing is reused. That's not enough. We should be reusing materials more and more. I know that people already do a pretty good job of this but still we should do more. I will say that this would just be a good thing for anyone reading this: Try and reuse as much as possible. If clothes don't fit anymore, donate them to a thrift store. Heck, just buy a lot of your clothes from thrift stores. But now I am done with this subject.

In this part I will be switching to the world, so deal with it. One thing I know is a problem in the world is TRASH. Especially in the ocean. There are a few spots on the ocean that are just trash islands! These are from people throwing stuff into the ocean and it being picked up by currents and swept to these areas. This is obviously bad and people need to stop. I know a lot of people are cleaning these up but I think that not enough people know. I mean I didn't know about this until I started this project so that's not right. To help we could, well this was REALLY hard to find out but drumroll please, STOP DUMPING STUFF IN THE OCEAN! I know right no one ever could have thought! In addition we could start picking them up a bit more. Raise more attention to the matter.

Now this is something less about the environment but it's still important—Animals. Especially farm animals. CAFOs are mass production farms for meat and dairy products. I don't know THAT much about the subject but I do know that they're bad. For one, they're not nice to anyone! The conditions are horrible to work in. The smell of ammonia is everywhere. And I know this for a fact because I love farm animals and cow poop reeks with ammonia sometimes. I can't imagine how bad it would be with hundreds of cows. Also the animals are all shoved together. Some of them never even get to turn around! We should raise awareness for the CAFOs and how bad they are. Adding this part may be because of the fact that I am really protective of animals, but that still doesn't make this okay.

So there you have it, a bunch of problems and some ways to solve them. But I hope you like it! Also if you didn't know a lot of this stuff then I am really glad that one more person knows. Have a great day!<3 Anita