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Save Our Resources!

The Earth is an amazing place, but there are many perks and people that destroy our planet. There are people who trash our waters and hurt our animals. In many oceans there are islands full of trash as big as large states in the USA. There is also pollution in the oceans, from certain gasses and septics poured into the oceans. With all the trash and pollution animals can get sick or hurt, or even both. Animals can get hurt by trash, like turtles can get hurt by plastic bags over their necks. Also gasses and toxic liquids can pollute the waters and animals can get very sick.

A solution for these problems are using recyclable and compostable materials such as compostable forks and paper cups and plates. And plant based items. We could also maybe relocate drainage pipes and lower large facilities with a lot of smoke towers. Another problem is people are wasting water, almost 10,000 gallons of water are wasted a year just in the US. An average family uses 300 gallons of water a year, that could fill up 3 entire swimming pools a year. These small things can add up to us using too much water and wasting energy.

Things you can do to save water and energy are possibly save one cup to use for water for the whole day, instead of a new cup every time you grab a glass of water. Another thing you could do is take shorter showers, only use enough time to wash your body. Instead of washing dishes by hand, use a dishwasher and spend less time, energy, and water cleaning dishes.

Energy, lights and devices are another situation, like leaving your lights on too much in rooms of your house. Instead of leaving lights on all day, everytime you leave a room, you could turn off the lights. Another thing you could do is get LED lights, they use 75% less energy, and last 8x longer than average bulbs. You could also wash and dry your clothes less by wearing your clothes more if they are not actually dirty and you could dry your clothes outside if it's a nice day. Instead of using too much wifi, you could also turn the wifi off whenever you're not using it. It's healthier for you and the environment. You could also unplug your TV or any household devices when it's half or fully charged instead of leaving it on its charging post, it costs more energy and money. You could also adjust your heater instead of leaving it on all the time, get a blanket if you're starting to get cold, reevaluate if you get colder!

Did you know that 100 billion pieces of clothing are produced a year and only 1 percent of clothing are recycled fibers? Well the rest are thrown out or even **burned!** About one garbage truck full of clothes is burned or thrown away almost every second. This is not healthy for our Earth because if you burn the clothes then the dyes and fibers can pollute the air. Another reason why this is not healthy is that people that are poor and in need of clothes should get donated and given clothes. \$460 billion worth of clothes that are still usable are thrown away. Instead of throwing out and burning clothes we could give it to the people in need. If we use old clothes we don't want anymore and use that fabric to make new clothing then we could have more clothes and less pollution. If we do this then hopefully it will help out the Earth.

If we take care of our Earth this way, and think before we just act out our decisions it will be a healthier environment and we will be healthier people. We need to **stop** hurting our planet, and we need to **focus** on **saving** it. If we continue to treat planet Earth like this, we might not even **have** an Earth. Start today to help the planet out, and help yourself out too.