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| A picture of a winding road and treesENVIRONMENT SCIENCE | AbstractEvery creature on earth, from curious sniffles to magnificent zouwus, are impacted by our everyday decisions. Your transportation choices help creatures, the planet, and magical people. HOW TRANSPORTATION AFFECTS THE ENVIRONMENT |

1. Cars

As much as we all wish to have fling Ford. Cars negatively affect our planet’s health in many ways.

Take for example the carbon emissions generated by millions of people who drive to and from work every day. According to the EPA, a typical car emits approximately 4.6 metric tons of carbon dioxide per year. That‘s not to mention the methane and nitrous oxide that also are produced and expelled contribute to global warming, ocean acidification, and in turn, ecosystem and species destruction.

1. Buses

We have to agree with Arthur Weasley when he says that non magical transportation is “simply fabulous” and “wonderfully ingenious!”

Over the past year, as people have worked from home and traveled less, air pollution has been reduced. Now that the world is slowly opening up, we would like to encourage you to use your car less in favor of public means of transportation, such as the bus, the subway, trains, or streetcars.

1. Airplanes

Unlike flying on a broom, non-magical methods of flying, such as airplanes, are energy-dependents.

According to carbon independent, a person will emit one metric ton of CO2 per four hour of air-travel. So one plane trip lasting for around 8 hours can produce more emissions than some people produce in an entire year! To reduce your carbon footprint while travelling, try not to use air travel for palaces nearby.

1. Trains

According to an Our World in Data study from 2016, out of various means of transportation, trains have one of the lowest carbon footprints. As such, they are one of the most environmentally friendly ways to travel.

Among the 16.2% of global greenhouse gas emissions coming from energy used in transportation, emissions from passenger and cargo rail travel represented only 0.4%.

1. Boats

Traveling by boat can be fun, but did you know that marine environments are greatly disrupted by ships, boats and other water vessels?

According to the EPA, studies on water quality showed that in trafficked waterways, water was much more likely to be spoiled and polluted. Leaking fuel can change the water’s chemistry, making the marine environment too acidic or alkaline for some organisms to grow.

1. Bike

While we all love Sirius’s motorbike and wish we could borrow it like Hagrid did, we have to agree that it’s not the most environmentally friendly way to travel.

Instead of a motor bike (enchanted or not), why not use a regular bike?

Urban mobility is rapidly becoming one of the greatest challenges facing developed and developing countries alike. Transport is estimated to be responsible for nearly a quarter of global energy-related CO2.there are also rising concerns about its impact on the quality of urban life, including social inequities, and about the effects of its pollution on health and buildings. Overall demand for transport activity (for both passenger and freight) is growing rapidly and it is predicted to roughly double between 2005 and 2050. The global vehicle fleet is set to multiply three or four-fold in the next few decades, with most of this growth set to occur in developing countries. In 2050 two-thirds of the global vehicle fleet is expected to be in non-OECD countries. At the same time technological improvements such as fuel efficient vehicles and alternative power sources have not developed rapidly enough to cope with the consequence of this growth.

There is a growing consensus on the need for more sustainable patterns of transport activities. This requires a fundamental shift in investment patterns, based on the principles of avoiding or reducing trips through integrated land-used and transport planning. Moreover it is necessary to shift to more environmentally friendly mode of transport and improving vehicles and fuels, which is seen as a priority to reduce urban air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. In order to reduce volumes of traffic and emissions regulations and standards, environment friendly technologies and concepts for public transport and green cities have to be implemented.

The environmental effects of transport are significant because transport is a major user of energy and burns most of the world’s petroleum. This creates air pollution, including nitrous oxides and particulates and is a significant contributor to global warming through emission of carbon dioxide. With the transport sector, road transport is the largest contributor to global warming.

Other environmental impacts of transport systems include traffic congestion and automobile-oriented urban sprawl, which can consume natural habitat and agricultural lands. By reducing transport emissions globally, it is predicted that there will be significant positive effects on earth’s air quality, acid rain, smog and climate change. Health effects of transport include noise pollution and carbon monoxide emissions. While electric cars are being built to cut down co2 emission at the point of use, an approach that is becoming popular among cities worldwide is to prioritize public transport, bicycles and pedestrian movement. Redirecting vehicle movement to create 20-minute neighbor hoods that promotes exercise while greatly reducing vehicle dependency and pollution.

The health effect of transport emissions are also of concern. A recent survey of the studies on the effect of traffic emissions on pregnancy outcomes has linked exposure to emissions to adverse effects on gestational duration and possibly also intrauterine growth. As listed direct effects such as noise pollution and carbon monoxide emissions create direct and harmful effect on the environment, along with indirect effects.

Reference

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