

Concept of Conservation of Natural Resources and need of its sensitisation

Natural resources are something that is occurring naturally on Earth. It forms an indispensable part of our lives. It comprises of air, water, sunlight, coal, petroleum, natural gas, fossil fuels, oil, etc. However, they are exploited by humans for economic gain. Natural resources are at depletion because of the overuse. Some of these resources are available in abundance with the capability to renew. On the other hand, some are non-renewable. Thus, it demands a responsible behaviour for the conservation so as to ensure their sustainability.

Why Conserve Natural Resources? NEED of its sensitisation

Human beings depend upon the natural resources for their development activities. If the resources are not used wisely, it would create an imbalance in the environment. Thus would head us in opposition to an eco-friendly atmosphere. The need for conservation arises from the significance of natural resources. It is as follows-

1. Water is a renewable natural resource. We use it for drinking, producing electricity, irrigation, in various industries and for a number of activities. Its scarcity would cause loss of vegetation, adverse effect on flora and fauna, erosion of soil, etc.
2. Plants and animals provide a wide range of industrial and biological materials. Also, it assists in the manufacturing of medicine and for various other uses.
3. It takes millions of years for the formation of natural resources.
4. Fossil fuels are of great importance. A lot of energy is produced from coal, oil and natural gas all of which are fossil fuels.
5. Forest is the most important natural resource which helps in economic development. Forest provides paper, furniture, timber, medicine, gum, etc. Also, it maintains a balance in the ecosystem. Moreover, it prevents soil erosion and protects wildlife.

6. Land resources support natural vegetation, wildlife, transport. The land also provides us food, cloth, shelter, and other basic needs.

Ways to Conserve Natural Resources

Different ministries of the Government, national and international agencies have been working for the purpose of conserving the natural resources.

1. Environment education must be imparted by including the same in the curricula of the schools.
2. National Parks are making an effort for the safety of the natural resources.
3. By reducing, reusing and recycling of non-renewable resources.
4. Non-human species must be disturbed only to meet the basic needs.
5. Planting of more and more trees to save our forest resources.
6. Seeking alternatives to non-renewable resources.
7. By increased use of bio-gas and bio-fuels.
8. By preventing the dumping of industrial wastes into the river bodies. This is a measure to protect the rich marine life.
9. Overgrazing must be prevented. Also, poaching of animals must be controlled.
10. Practicing crop rotation techniques helps in maintaining the fertility of the soil.
11. Burning of fossil fuels emits carbon-di-oxide which is a major greenhouse gas. It is responsible for the greenhouse effect. Thus, the burning of fossil fuels must be controlled.

These are some of the measures which we can undertake for the conservation of natural resources. As Human- beings, we have a social responsibility to fulfill towards nature. Thus, while using resources, we shall follow the principle of sustainable development.

Thus, Natural resources are a present for the creation. These help in satisfying the human needs to its fullest. Furthermore, the rational use of natural resources maintains the earth's atmosphere.

Also, the wise use leads to protection of bio-diversity. Humans cannot imagine their lives without natural resources. Thus, the conservation of the same is essential.

WAYS FOR SENSITISATION

How to Get Your Children Interested in Wildlife Conservation

If you are a wildlife conservationist, there can be no greater joy than to watch your child follow your footsteps. If you are visiting or live in South India, especially near the Western Ghats, there are a lot of ways to awaken your child's interests about conservation.

What is the history of wildlife conservation in the Nilgiris?

The Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve in the Western Ghats is the first Indian biosphere reserve and was established in 1986. The Western Ghats happens to be one of the largest forest areas in Southern India. Several rivers originate from this area and this region is home to many endangered species of plants and animals.

How can you can awaken your child's interest in conservation?

The goals of conservationists today is to ensure a healthy, vibrant, and sustainable environment. Teaching the younger generation about conservation can be done by:

1) Education and Messaging:

A crucial strategy used by conservationists today is informing children about the importance of conserving natural resources. Educating youth in their formative years helps them understand the message of how important conservation is.

2) Habitat Protection:

The decline in animal populations can be considered to be a direct result of the destruction of their habitat. Conservationists take proactive measures which help ensure the protection of the habitats of diverse wildlife species. Some examples are pesticide and fertilizer regulation which are used in an area and preventing siltation in local ponds and streams. Get your kids involved in such activities to help awaken their interest about nature and biodiversity.

3) Scientific Research:

Conservationists collate and study the lifestyle, needs and reproductive strategies of various species. Doing this allows them to identify different ways of protecting various species of animals. Involve your children in this study of species and the analysis of the data that you collect.

4) Teach your kids to identify different species:

Make it a point to teach your children how to identify trees in their neighbourhood, fish in the local river, or birds in your garden.

5) Play nature- and conservation-oriented games:

Games are a great way to help your child learn valuable lessons. You can take your child to a nearby park and play a simple scavenger hunt.

6) Attend camps, presentations, and workshops together:

Various organizations in the Nilgiri region hold conservation- or nature- oriented camps or workshops for children. Keep a look out for various kids wildlife and birding camps that you can take them to. Attending such camps which focus on the flora and fauna in the Nilgiris is a natural way of getting them interested in conservation.

7) Allow your child access to different kinds of media about conservation:

There are a lot of television shows, documentaries, books and websites which focus on nature and conservation. Letting your child access these in a moderated fashion is great to awaken their interest in conservation.

According to various studies, one out of four mammals is on the brink of extinction. To make a positive difference in this world, it is imperative to realize that tomorrow's citizens should learn about nature and conservation at an early age. As a conservationist, you will know the importance of our global ecosystem. Get your child interested in wildlife conservation from a very young age and make a difference to our world's future.