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Abstract. The article considers one of the main global problems of the world - depletion of natural resources of the Earth. It also analyzes the causes and possible methods of solving this problem.

Keywords: the global problem, natural resources, humanity, depletion.

THE PROBLEM OF DEPLETION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The depletion of natural resources is a serious environmental problem, a threat to the existence of all humankind. Natural resources are consumed by man too quickly. They do not have time to resume, and the demand for natural resources is growing faster every day.

The causes of natural resource depletion may be natural or man-made. This is an activity that increases the speed of using natural resource. The following reasons can be highlighted:

* Overpopulation. This problem has the most significant impact. Already in 2022, the population of the Earth has reached 8 billion people. To meet all their needs, a huge amount of natural resources must be spent, which causes irreparable damage to the entire planet.
* Agriculture. The forest suffers the most from this activity. Large areas of forest are being cut down to grow crops. It takes many years to grow new trees, but, more importantly, almost no one is engaged in the restoration of cleared forests.
* Excessive extraction of natural resources. Coal, crude oil, gas - all of this is extracted in wasteful quantities, and the size is almost uncontrolled.
* Pollution. One of the most important natural resources is fresh water. Naturally, it is impossible to limit its use. However, large amounts of water supplies are becoming unusable due to improper recycling of waste facilities worldwide.

There are many steps people can take to address the depletion of natural resources. Some of them start with our way of life, others - industrial, political measures, and others are efforts of the public. Possible solutions to this problem include:

* Formation of the right way of life and caring attitude of man to nature. The damage to nature will be reduced in many ways if the habits such as: reuse and proper management of waste, economical attitude towards natural resources, etc., become normal for every person.
* Application of renewable energy sources.
* Legal protection and control consumption worldwide.
* Active measures of the state and civil society in the sphere of restoration and protection of nature.
* Imposition of severe penalties for damage to nature.

Thus, uncontrolled consumption of natural resources could lead to the total depletion of the planet’s resources. We can turn the whole world into a lifeless desert, which is what’s happening. Humanity must find the strength to stop and preserve our world from destruction

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