

# A Concrete World

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Climate Change will impact our cities in the future. It will lead to increased drought, hurricanes, wildfires, and floods effecting those who reside in cities.

## Words to Know

### Urbanization

The population shift from rural to urban areas making cities more developed

### Sea Level Rise (SLR)

An increase in the level of the world's oceans due to the effects of global warming

### Impermeability

Not allowing fluid to pass through. Concrete, asphalt and other built materials do not allow rain to pass through into the ground.

### Climate Change

A change in global temperatures, from the mid to late 20th century onwards attributed largely to the increased levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide produced by the use of fossil fuels.

# Urbanization and its Effect on the Planet

By 2050 it's projected that more than two-thirds of the world population will live in urban areas.



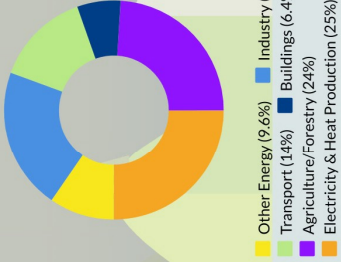
Urban areas are responsible for more than **70%** of CO2 emissions



In the United States urbanization has been found to be directly responsible for the endangerment of **275** species



## Greenhouse Emissions by Sector



Cities, which are built of concrete and other surfaces, cause water to runoff and pollute nearby rivers, streams and oceans



# Flooding in our Cities

Impermeability of surfaces leads to Urban Flooding



More precipitation from Hurricanes = More Urban Flooding

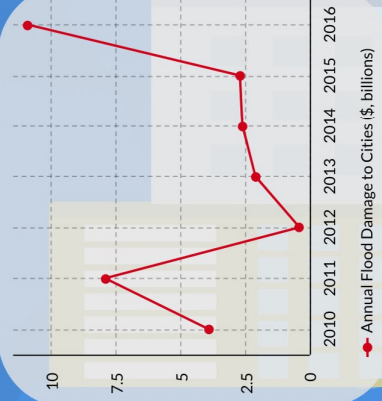


SLR + Urban Flooding = Less habitable cities

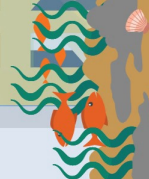


## Did you Know?

About **193 million** gallons of used oil every year run off into local streams, the equivalent of **17** Exxon Valdez oil spills.



Annual Flood Damage to Cities (\$ billions)



## Climate Change & the Increase in U.S. Wildfires

**300%**

in total  
acres  
burned since  
1985

**\$27.7**

Billion in  
damage to  
buildings from  
the 2018  
California Fires



15 Major U.S. Cities are at-risk from wildfires



More Fires =  
More CO<sub>2</sub>



Increased Temps =  
More Lightning  
strikes, which cause  
**15%** of wildfires



Warmer Temps =  
Increase in dry,  
surface level winds  
which fan fires



### Did you Know?

Almost **85%** of Wildfires in the U.S. are caused by humans

## How Can you get Involved?

### Do Your Part!

You can get started by:

- Plant trees in your own backyard
- Turn off the lights when you leave the house
- Ride your bike to school

### Advocate!

Join a Climate March and make your voice heard!

**CHANGE!**

### Connect!

Write to your local or state representative!



Check out the resources below to get started:

<https://defendourfuture.org>

<https://kyyouth.org>

<https://peoplesclimate.org>