

Eco Diary Entry #1



This week we did some research and looked at environmental issues happening all around the world. Some of these we were familiar with but others we definitely needed more information. Something that wasn't mentioned in our global table, however, was biodiversity. This is something we talked about in class before as being very important to all environments and ecosystems. When we visited our local Brannon Gearhart Park, we thought of this issue as well. Even though it is winter time and difficult to understand which plants are alive, dormant, or dead, it is still obvious that the park is lacking in vegetation and more specifically native vegetation. There are many dead trees and brush that needs to be cleared out and replaced with some new vegetation that can benefit the ecosystem there. This proposed solution will help attract more wildlife and pollinators.






GLOBAL Environmental Issues Chart/Table:

Issue	What I Already Know	What I Learned	Source
Air	Air pollution is making the air less clean and harder to breathe. The more that we use our cars, the worse the air becomes.	Pollutants promote hydrocarbons, or HAPs, are toxic components of traffic exhaust and wildfire smoke. In large amounts, they have been linked to eye and lung irritation, blood and	https://www.cdc.gov/air/pollution/airquality/2019/09/09/air.html

		One month and even longer to see how they the problem of weather when it has higher than average during emergency that when your community needs are better equipped to handle?	
Climate Change	Due to more greenhouse gases being released into the atmosphere, the global temperature is rising, causing sea levels to rise and weather to become more extreme. This is causing the melting of glaciers and ice sheets.	The best long-term solution is to reduce the amount of greenhouse gases being released into the atmosphere.	http://www.epa.gov/climatechange
Nature Disasters	Natural disasters are becoming more frequent due to climate change. As the planet warms, sea levels rise, causing more frequent flooding and hurricanes. This is causing the melting of glaciers and ice sheets.	Reducing greenhouse gas emissions is the best way to reduce the risk of natural disasters. This can be done by using energy-efficient appliances, driving less, and recycling.	http://www.epa.gov/nature
Green Living	Green living is environmentally friendly, the way to green it all includes recycling and composting.	There are many things you can do to live more green. You can recycle, use energy-efficient appliances, and drive less.	http://www.epa.gov/greenliving
Land and Climate	Climate change is causing the melting of glaciers and ice sheets.	Climate change is causing the melting of glaciers and ice sheets. This is causing sea levels to rise and weather to become more extreme.	http://www.epa.gov/landandclimate
Business, chemicals, and fuels	Business, chemicals, and fuels are causing the melting of glaciers and ice sheets.	Business, chemicals, and fuels are causing the melting of glaciers and ice sheets. This is causing sea levels to rise and weather to become more extreme.	http://www.epa.gov/businesschemicals
Recycling/plastics waste (or waste)	Recycling/plastics waste (or waste) is causing the melting of glaciers and ice sheets.	Recycling/plastics waste (or waste) is causing the melting of glaciers and ice sheets. This is causing sea levels to rise and weather to become more extreme.	http://www.epa.gov/recycling
Waste (including or waste)	Waste (including or waste) is causing the melting of glaciers and ice sheets.	Waste (including or waste) is causing the melting of glaciers and ice sheets. This is causing sea levels to rise and weather to become more extreme.	http://www.epa.gov/waste
Water	Water is very valuable to sustain life on Earth. It is important to conserve water and protect our water resources.	Water is very valuable to sustain life on Earth. It is important to conserve water and protect our water resources.	http://www.epa.gov/water
What other issues have you heard or read about that are affecting our environment?	Other issues include air quality, ozone depletion, and global warming.	Other issues include air quality, ozone depletion, and global warming.	http://www.epa.gov/airquality

LOCAL Environmental Issues Chart/Table:

Environmental Issue	Issue	Cause and Effect	What We Can Do	Where/When
Air Pollution (smog and water and waste)	Air Pollution - smog and water and waste	Air Pollution - smog and water and waste	Air Pollution - smog and water and waste	Air Pollution - smog and water and waste

<p>Invasive Species</p>	<p>Invasive species that have taken over native species</p>	<p>Cause: Invasive species being brought into the area Effect: took over the area from native species</p>	<p>We should control the native species and get rid of the invasive ones.</p>	
<p>Debris</p>	<p>Broken up sidewalks</p>	<p>Cause: Changing the Earth has moved and rocks and soil have been displaced, making the sidewalks all cracked and bumpy Effect: People can trip, fall, and hurt themselves.</p>	<p>Fix the sidewalks so that this won't happen anymore</p>	
<p>Water Drainage</p>	<p>Water on the ground and the ground being very muddy</p>	<p>Cause: There aren't any very good drainage system Effect: water has no place to go and so just sits on the ground</p>	<p>We need to create a drainage system that can adequately handle our water</p>	
<p>Litter</p>	<p>Trash on the ground</p>	<p>Cause: There aren't any many trash cans around Effect: People have no place to put their trash</p>	<p>Put more trash and recycling cans around the park, with signs showing what stuff goes where.</p>	
<p>Fire hazard</p>	<p>Dead grass and dead trees</p>	<p>Cause: There are alot of dead plants around the area Effect: This could become a real fire hazard</p>	<p>Remove these dead plants and put alive ones in their place</p>	

Eco Diary Entry #2



Our environmental issue we are trying to solve is the lack of biodiversity within the Brannon Gearhart Park. There have been a lot of invasive species that have taken over and this all affects the way the park looks as well as all the animals being affected. What we will do to improve this situation is introducing more native plants and removing the invasive species. This will all help bring more animals to the area and brighten up the park while removing many invasive species. This will help the park ecosystem and then the Ken Caryl neighborhood as well since the park is a direct reflection on this smaller ecosystem within a larger community.

Issue	Supportive Claim (Why is this an issue?)	Supportive Info (Evidence to support my claim)	Sources
Lack of biodiversity	Invasive species have taken over	We saw the invasive species	Ourselves
	It affects the animals that live there	We didn't see any animals when we were there	Ourselves
	It affects the way that the parks look	We saw that the park was really drab and boring	Ourselves
Solution	Supportive Claim (Why is this a good solution?)	Supportive Info (Evidence to support my claim)	Sources
Introducing more native plants and pulling the invasive species	It will bring more animals to the area	Both bees and butterflies are pollinators, and all plants need pollinators to survive	Our prior knowledge
	It will brighten up the park	Adding more native plants will make the park more colorful	Our prior knowledge
	There will be less invasive species	We pull the invasive species and there will be less invasive species	Our prior knowledge

Eco Diary Entry #3



We are going to be creating a video that includes all information we have in our decided environmental issue within the park as well as our proposed solution. We will then be submitting this video to the task force board of directors that are in charge of this park. If they decide to choose our issue and solution then they will be able to put any money they have raised towards our solution to make it happen. In our video, we provided an interesting topic with lots of evidence. We will make sure that the presentation is fun and engaging, that way the audience doesn't get bored. It will be very bright and colorful, that way it can really pop. We are hoping that the task force goes with our idea because we really think that it can significantly benefit the park and community.

Eco Diary Entry #4

Group: Bella
and Laurel

Good evidence and analysis

Definetely a strong idea

you guys had a good claim

good explanations

Good vocab?

You explained why you chose the topic really well

Unique idea that would benefit the ecosystem

great plan

Is it possible to remove invasive species?

How will we be able to remove invasive species?

Which native plants will be put in?

How long will it take for the plan to work.

What plants would be the best and most effective for the park?

What plants would be put in? not too much evidence

Which invasive species will be removed?

not much evidence or explanation

when will the plan go into place

not much evidence

How would this happen? What are the invasive species?

more evidence

How will you do this?

We will be presenting our video this coming May to the task force board of directors. To make sure that we have the best project of them all we held a socratic seminar (as our teacher called it) and presented our project to the class to receive constructive feedback from everyone. We then had time to revise and make it all stronger based on the feedback. Something we need to include is the kind of plants that are already there and the plants that we are going to plant. We should introduce our idea here, and it would probably be a good idea to include pictures of what the park looks like right now.(example: types of trees or vegetation that should be planted, what kind of bird house/bug house, where, etc) We would put in blanket flowers, yarrow, and rocky mountain columbine to begin with. Overall, we are taking away that we need to go more in-depth into our plants. In our presentation we will provide where we are going to plant them, what it will cost, what animals it will attract, and how it will add to the park. We are hoping with all these revisions and upgrades that the task force will choose our solution to fund and make happen.

Final Presentation Link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2130748138>

