



What is Deforestation?

It is the decline in forest areas across the world, lost for uses such as agricultural croplands, development, or transportation. Greatly fast-tracked by human activities since 1960, deforestation has been damagingly affecting natural ecosystems, biodiversity, and the climate.



Upwards of 50,000 acres of forests are cleared by farmers and lumberjacks per day worldwide, and the equivalent of over 10,000 football fields are destroyed each day in the Amazon Basin alone.



This extreme clearing of land, especially for animal agriculture, results in habitat loss, increase of greenhouse gases, disruption of water cycles, increased soil erosion, and excessive flooding.



A major amount of total deforestation occurs in rainforests, which are home to over 50 percent of plants and animals on the planet. If we humans continue to burn and bulldoze our rainforests, thousands of species will die each year, we will lose crops like chocolate, and coffee, and the effects of climate change will worsen.



Rainforests are often known as the 'lungs of the Earth'. They absorb harmful carbon dioxide and produce 20% of the oxygen in the Earth's atmosphere. Rainforests get their name from the heavy rains which fall almost every day. Unfortunately, rainforests are under threat because of deforestation