

Humans Impact the Hudson

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Humans are polluting the Hudson river everyday. Pipes of liquid waste, chemicals from our lawns, salt from our roads, boats, even air pollution have an impact on our river. The water is precious, and what do we do? We ruined it. Most people think "It's just water, what's so bad about it?" What most people don't think about is the lives it impacts. Lives that are precious to them, and that they need. I am of course talking about the lives of the innocent

organisms that call the Hudson their home.

Imagine if our air was polluted to the point where hundreds, possibly even thousands of us died everyday. Eventually we'd become extinct creatures. Well, that's what aquatic organisms worry about everyday. Us humans, at this rate, will eventually kill off all the organisms in the water. It's bad, but we can help it.

First of all, we can force factories to stop spewing those horrible liquids into the water. It would require stricter laws, anger, possibly even government rebellion. But if that's the cost of cleaner water, then it's worth it. We would be able to swim in it everywhere, it would attract more people, and more aquatic organisms would be able to live there, and in higher quantities.

Secondly, we can reduce use of pesticides, salt, and other harmful toxins everywhere in and near the Hudson River watershed. There are lots of other safer and more eco-friendly products out there. And yes, they will be more expensive, but the result will be brilliantly fabulous.

The third thing we can do is to stop throwing our trash everywhere! It's crazy! There are trash cans everywhere and all we have to do is put it in the cans instead of throwing it right where we are. If that stuff gets into the water animals can mistake it for some kind of food and eat it. We wonder why they are so stupid, but the real question is why we're so stupid as to put it there in the first place.

The fourth and final thing we can do is to clean up after ourselves. People do it all the time with their rooms, houses, cars etc. So here's my question: How come so few people are involved with cleaning up the river? There are organized programs to go and do so, and you can also go and do it yourself. When we left our data collection site today I noticed that there was still quite a bit of trash there, It was sad that there was trash there in the first place.

In the end, it is up to us to make a difference. We have worked very hard in the past few years but there is still work to do. Like with all work, cleaning the Hudson River will go much faster if more people pitch in to clean the river we all love. Let's make a difference.
Let's get to work.