

Wildfires and Climate Change in Canada

Have you ever wondered why it's sometimes hotter in the summer than the last? Well, that's what climate change does. What is climate change? Well, climate change is when the earth gets hotter because of gases called greenhouse gases which are caused by many things on our planet. Such as using fossil fuels to eating foods that are higher up on the food chain. Climate, however, is not the weather like the sun, snow, and rain but is the temperature all around the world in its continents, countries, and ecosystems. The problem is that we humans are part of the reason it's a problem. Which leads me to my next reason. Humans can cause and increase climate change because of driving cars, eating meat, using fossil fuels and much, much more. We don't only affect land though when we increase climate change it also gets hotter which causes the arctic glaciers to melt and cause the sea levels to rise. I care about this issue because the rising sea levels and increasing wildfires are threatening lives, destroying ecosystems and small towns.

I am here to tell you about wildfires, their effects, and their causes. Wildfires are increasing and getting bigger because of humans and with the effects of climate change. Most wildfires are usually started and caused by warmer temperatures and drier conditions which causes the plants to die and dry up and that is what can lead to a wildfire. According to "Wildfires" by Jaclyn Jaycox, "when lightning strikes and catches a dry spot it can start a wildfire." Other causes can include earlier snow melt which can also lead to drier conditions, vegetation changes are leading to more CO² in the air. Extreme wind events can also sometimes cause wildfires to grow. Fires bring impacts all over the world such as health issues and air condition impacts many people think wildfires are bad, they are a natural disaster and sometimes

if small can be helpful. The fires also bring poor water and soil quality along with the loss of vegetation, homes, and infrastructure. To many, resources have been lost to millions of people around the world

Canada's record wildfires of 2023 and others have impacted Canada, the people, and the infrastructure significantly. According to “Canada’s 2023 wildfires emitted more carbon than most countries” “the specific impact on the people was when researchers calculated the total emissions from the 2023 wildfires at about 647 teragrams of carbon, a teragram is one million metric tons”. Impacts on the land were the unusually high temperatures and droughts which fueled the country's worst wildfire season ever. It burned 37million acres of land, (about the size of Florida, U.S.) and in 2024 Jasper national park burned down almost entirely. The infrastructure impacts of the Canadian wildfires include the town of Jasper and when the wildfires of 2024 burned down about thirty percent of the town over 360 structures were burned down entirely. The people and animals of Jasper national park will need to adjust to the problems of climate change and the wildfires that come with it. According to, “2023 Canadian wildfires facts for kids”, “Canada set record breaking series of fires and by August 17, 5,765 fires had burned”. The wildfires here are much more significant than anywhere else because of how much carbon and smoke is released each year. The people of Jasper and Canada have suffered mass wildfires and have loss many resources and infrastructure in parts of the town and country of Canada.

We can help this community by improving forest management including making and using more controlled burns but also building fireproof roofs for many houses and buildings. The town of Jasper and homes and buildings of Canada can install better sprinkler systems to fight the fires early on, and the people can use less carbon emissions. By improving forest

management, we can have more controlled burns so that wildfires don't have so much wood and leaves to burn and help the fires keep burning hotter and hotter. Installing better sprinkler systems will help keep the fires from damaging the houses near the forests. If the town of Jasper can build more fireproof roofs, they can protect the houses of Jasper from the giant wildfires. Many people are already looking to try to reduce carbon emissions significantly. The people of Jasper can help avoid activities with fire to try and lessen the numbers of wildfires in Jasper National Park. These changes can help to stop the gigantic fires and make the smaller fires less affective to Canada and Jasper national park.

In conclusion, climate change matters to me because of the fires destroying millions of homes and ecosystems including the forests and parks in Canada. Climate change impacts my generation by destroying the ecosystems and habitats for animals. Not only that but wildfires also release carbon emissions into the air. Others should care about these issues of climate change because of the billions of people losing resources and lives. Others causing climate change aren't thinking of the consequences they will bring to others. My hope for climate change in the future is that the wildfires and other effects of climate change will be solved, and millions won't have to face the problems and disasters of climate change. I hope you agree with me, and we can help to fight climate change.

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