

**THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEM OF GARBAGE AND  
WAYS TO SOLVE IT**

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***Annotation:** Garbage pollution is one of the main environmental problems of our time. Every year the Earth is increasingly covered with waste, and large areas are allocated to landfills. That is why recently scientists around the world have been looking for effective ways to recycle waste.*

The history of garbage began along with active human economic activity. Despite the fact that this problem became global only in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, its roots are hidden in centuries.

Before the 19<sup>th</sup> century, there was no such amount of garbage. People used only natural materials that quickly decompose and do not harm the environment.

However, in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, a sharp development of industry began. Synthetic waste has begun to accumulate on Earth, and it takes more than 1,000 years to decompose. All waste in the city can be divided into 3 groups.

Household waste. Appear in the process of conducting household activities. Solid waste is not the main problem of humanity, but garbage, glass and organic waste make up a significant proportion of the total percentage of garbage.

Industrial. According to statistics, they are considered the most dangerous. One of the global environmental problems is environmental pollution from industrial waste.

Agricultural. This includes sawdust, livestock and agricultural waste. Reusable and recyclable.

The process of waste decomposition occurs in different ways and can last from several days to tens of thousands of years. This is due to the composition of the product and the types of effects on it. Below are the average decomposition times for popular waste products. Type of waste Decomposition time:

Paper and cardboard - 3 months, printing paper - 3 years, wood, tin, shoes 10 – years, iron - 20 years, chewing gum - 30 years, batteries - 100 years, plastic bags are - 200 years old, batteries from - 100 years, tires are - 200 years, pampers are - 500 years, aluminum - 500 years, glass and plastic from - 1000 years.

The main problem of waste is its quantity. Humanity produces a huge amount of waste that it is unable to recycle.

The garbage problem exists even in developed European countries.

One of the global issues is pollution of the Pacific Ocean. Every year the amount of plastic in water increases by 9 million tons. So far, this has been most acute in the Cocos Islands. Tons of bottles and bags land on local shores.

Garbage islands, mass death of fish and plants, toxic substances getting into the water are a global problem that requires an immediate solution.

The problem of waste is not only the space it takes up, but also the pollution of the environment. Let's take a look at the harm that garbage causes to nature.

Waste stored in landfills gradually decomposes under the influence of direct sunlight. During the decomposition process, landfills accumulate:

methane;  
carbon dioxide;  
filtrate.

Toxic compounds end up in the air, water and soil. They cause suffocation, respiratory problems and lead to chronic diseases.

Plastic, glass, car batteries and tires take a long time to decompose. Such garbage can lie in landfills for thousands of years, occupying useful space.

Garbage on the ground is hazardous to both people and animals. Toxic compounds enter food and water, causing serious poisoning. Birds often become entangled in plastic bags and cannot fly.

Garbage is naturally found in almost all forests near large cities. Illegal dumping occurs in parks, courtyards, and residential complexes.

As waste decomposes, it releases large amounts of carbon monoxide and methane. They contribute significantly to the accumulation of the greenhouse effect. Because of this, the temperature of the earth increases every year.

All countries are addressing the environmental problem of waste. Several effective methods have been developed for this.

Separate waste collection has been officially introduced in many European countries. Residents are accustomed to disposing of organic waste in one place, and disposing of plastic, glass, batteries and accumulators separately, taking them to special collection points.

All this helped create a state waste sorting system. Garbage is not stored in landfills, but is separated into categories and then recycled.

Incineration or landfilling are the most hazardous waste disposal methods. Instead, European countries have adopted recycling.

If the waste can be reused, it is sent to special plants.

Recycling is the solution to the problem of waste and overconsumption. Plastic or glass can be used to make new containers, and rubber is used to line stadiums.

The waste paper recycling process is well established. It is used to make new paper and cardboard.

The appropriate punishment is to prevent the formation of spontaneous landfills.

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