#### University of Nebraska - Lincoln DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Nebraska College Preparatory Academy Senior Capstone Projects

Nebraska College Preparatory Academy

2020

### **The Pollution Crisis**

Kelly Contreras

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/ncpacapstone

Part of the Bilingual, Multilingual, and Multicultural Education Commons, Other Education Commons, and the Secondary Education Commons

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Nebraska College Preparatory Academy at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in Nebraska College Preparatory Academy Senior Capstone Projects by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

Nebraska College Preparatory Academy **Grand Island Senior High School 2020** University of Nebraska-Lincoln

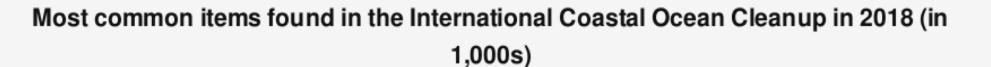
## Abstract

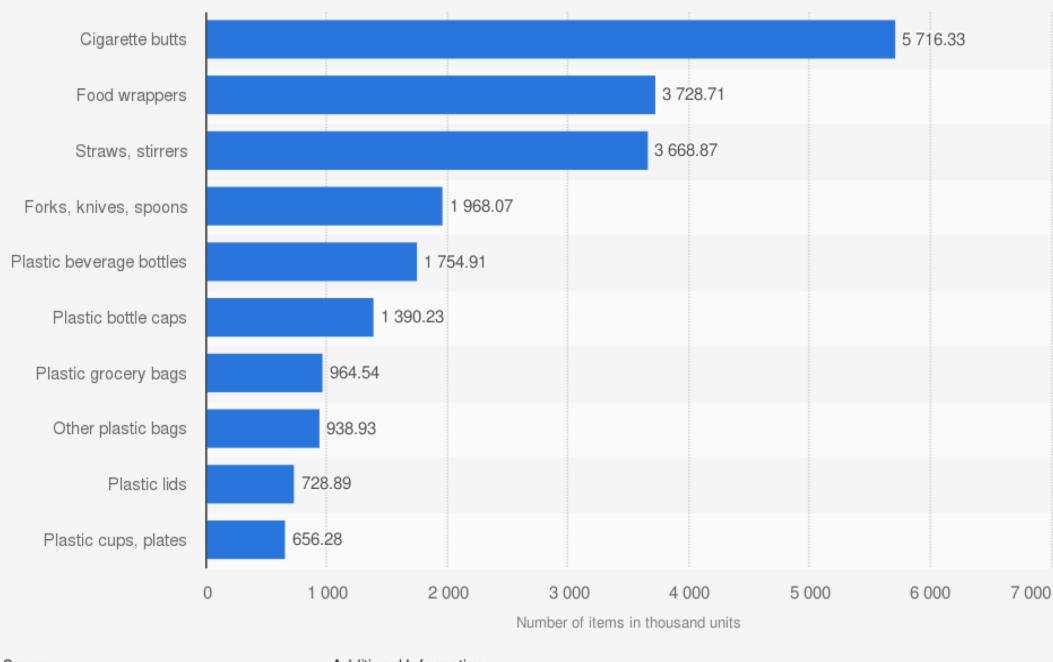
Environmental pollution can be categorized into three main types: air, water, and land, all of which have effects on human health. Although human pollution happens continuously, most people give little thought to the negative effects it has. Pollutants destroy the air organisms, the land walked on, the water swam in, and the bodies they live on. The focus of this research is to explore how we can save our air, land, and ocean before it is too late.

# **Key points**

- There are two main types of pollution: Nondegradable pollutants and biodegradable pollutants.
- Plastics is the major challenge in the marine environment. Ocean pollution is becoming inescapable and includes everything from fishing nets to household waste (Muralisrinivasan Subramanian 2016).
- The dangers of global warming increasing by one degree Celsius could lead to dramatic changes that would threaten all life (Rosa 2010).
- **Rising Ocean levels can have impact on land** when sea levels rise as rapidly as they have been.

# **The Pollution Crisis Kelly Contreras**





Ocean Conservancy Statista 2020

Additional Information Vorldwide: 201

Works Cited

McDonald, R. I. (2015). Conservation for cities: How to plan & build natural infrastructure [eBook edition]. Island Press. http://cccneb.idm.oclc.org/login?url=http://search .ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=nlebk&AN=1019268&site=edslive&ebv=EB&ppid=pp\_Front\_Cover Muralisrinivasan Subramanian, N. (2016). Plastics waste management : Processing and disposal [eBook edition]. Smithers Rapra. http://cccneb.idm.oclc.org/login?url= http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=nlebk&A N=1237412&site=eds-live&ebv=EB&ppid=pp\_iii Plastic bag on corals. Retrieved from https://www.123rf.com/photo 85112091 plastic-bag-on-corals.html Rosa, E. A. (2010). Human footprints on the global environment: Threats to sustainability [eBook edition]. The MIT Press. <a href="http://cccneb.idm.oclc.org/login?url=http://search">http://cccneb.idm.oclc.org/login?url=http://search</a> .ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=nlebk&AN=291850&site=eds-live&ebv=EB&ppid=pp\_83 Wang, T. "Items Found in Oceans Globally 2018." Statista, Ocean Conservancy, 19 Mar. 2020,

www.statista.com/statistics/726724/weight-of-most-common-items-found-in-global-oceans/.

years.

## **Conclusion and Discussion**

As cities around the world search for some affordable ways to reduce particulate levels, many of them find that there are simple things we can do. Planting a tree is incredibly cheap. Trees function as filters, as particulate matter settles on their leaves in a process called dry deposition. McDonald (2015) found that "the leaves of trees can even absorb ground-level ozone and some of its precursors, helping solve another chronic air pollution problem for many cities" (Pg. 146). Trees reduce not only concentrations of ozone and its precursors, but also air temperature, which slows the rate of ozone formation. Another way to take care of our oceans is to recycle. Plastic is non-degradable which makes it quite difficult to dispose of. The best way to remove it is to find the closest recycling bin where it can be thrown back into the biological cycle. Lastly, reducing greenhouse gases can slow rising sea levels. If nothing happens soon, the effects pollution has will be irreversible and the planet that is known today will be totally different within the next 20

I would love to expand on how greatly the world would be impacted if we banned cars, and found more ways to reduce different types of pollution.