




Composting

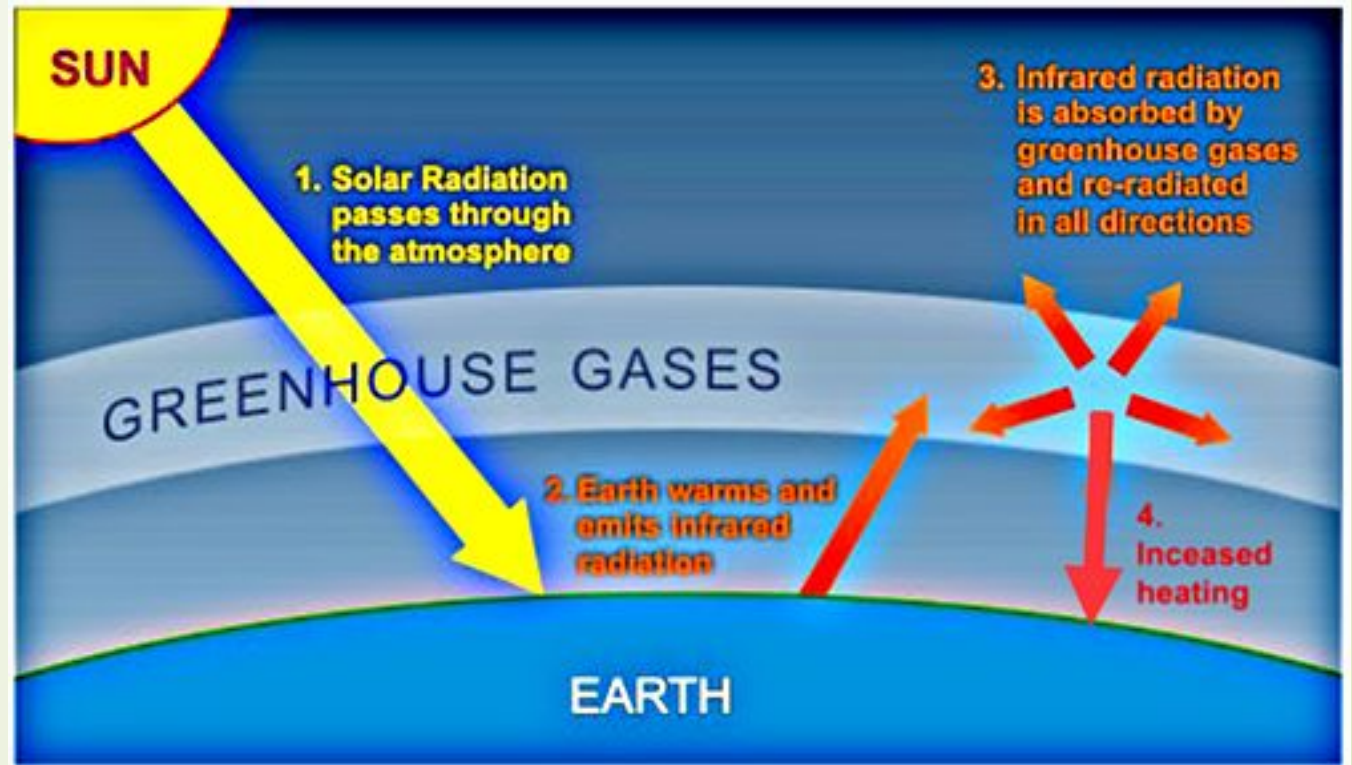


Background:

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- 1. Greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide have always been in the atmosphere and have helped keep the planet warm enough for human life.

Second Fact:

- 2. Over the past 150 years greenhouse gas levels have risen dramatically and are now keeping too much heat on the planet's surface.



Third Fact:

- 3. This excessive heat has resulted in major changes in global climate patterns which are unprecedented, often destructive and sometimes disastrous.



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Fourth Fact:

- 4. Lifestyle advances such as electricity and cars have had the unexpected negative consequence of causing greenhouse gas levels to rise.

Fifth Fact:

- 5. A greenhouse gas even more potent than carbon dioxide is produced when we send food waste to landfills and it decomposes in the absence of oxygen. This gas is METHANE, with 25 times more “warming impact” than carbon dioxide.





So, how much food waste is in a landfill?

- ❑ Food waste – about 30%
- ❑ Leaves, grass, trees – another 20%
- ❑ 50% of material in landfills could be composted!



Solutions:

- Make less food waste by:
- 1. Strategic meal planning
- 2. Creative leftover use
- 3. Buy only what you'll use

As much as 35% of the food that American families buy winds up not being eaten and gets wasted.



Composting – An Alternative to Landfills

- Produces only minimal methane as food and organic material is decomposed in the presence of oxygen.
- The resulting product can be added to soil to enrich it and also to enhance its capacity to sequester (capture) carbon.

Composting produces a nutritional soil supplement



Ways to Compost

- 1. Use a pickup or drop-off service to compost your food waste.
- 2. Create your own compost in your backyard.







Backyard Compost



Winter Compost





You can take action on food waste!

- 1. Reduce it
 - 2. Divert it.
 - 3. Compost it.
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- Help make a way out of the climate crisis!