

## pability

## The World is Abuzz About Sustainability

There is so much information out there, it's difficult to know where to start, much less know that you're actually making a difference.

In ecology, sustainability is how biological systems remain diverse and productive. Long-lived and healthy wetlands and forests are examples of sustainable biological systems.

Ways of living more sustainably can entail many forms of reorganizing living conditions— creating eco-homes, building green, bio-dynamic agriculture, development of green technologies and use of renewable energy.

Everyone needs to adjust their individual lifestyles and conserve natural resources. Achieving sustainability will enable the Earth to continue supporting human life.



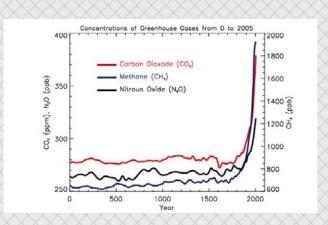
## **Greenhouse Gas**

We hear a lot about Greenhouse Gas (GHG), but what is this? And why is everyone so worried about these gases?

Our atmosphere is a layer surrounding the earth held in place by gravity and primarily made up of Nitrogen (78%), Oxygen (21%), with water vapor and various gases making up the remaining 1%.

Human activities result in emissions of four principal greenhouse gases: carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) and halocarbons. These gases are known to cause global warming.

The proportion of these gases has increased significantly over a few hundred years, beginning around the time of the Industrial Revolution (1850s). This is when we began to burn fossil fuels (coal) in large quantities to power our steam engines for industry, generate electricity, and heat our homes.



These gases are called greenhouse gases because they effectively make the blanket around our globe thicker, trapping more heat and turning the globe into a green house.

Global economic growth is driving higher carbon dioxide emissions which is not good.

The terms 'Global Warming' and 'Climate Change' have been used to describe what is happening.

The purpose of sustainability is find ways to reduce the dangers of global warming.