

Air Pollution Flash Cards – Terms

fossil fuel

atmosphere

emissions

asthma

dioxin

allergy

carbon monoxide

air pollution

carbon dioxide

air

Air Pollution Flash Cards – Definitions

CO ₂ , A colorless, odorless gas formed during breathing, combustion and decaying that adds to the greenhouse effect.	The mixture of invisible odorless tasteless gases (mainly nitrogen and oxygen) that surrounds the Earth.
CO, A colorless, odorless gas made of one carbon atom and one oxygen atom. Very harmful to breathe.	The gases and particles that negatively affect the quality of the air around us, which are harmful to the environment, and/or which enter the atmosphere at highly-concentrated levels.
A highly-toxic family of chemicals used to make poisonous substances like weed killers and bleaching products (such as for making paper white). Poisonous at 1 ppb.	A physical reaction (sneezing, coughing, etc.) to something in the air (such as pollen, dust, dander, pollution, etc.).
Gases or particles given off when fossil fuels are burned.	A condition, often caused by allergies, that causes a tightness in the chest (breathing tubes become swollen), difficulty breathing (cannot get enough air) and wheezing.
A material that forms naturally, underground from the remains of ancient organisms (plants and animals) from millions of years ago. For example, petroleum, coal, natural gas.	The layer of air that surrounds the Earth like a blanket. It keeps the Earth warm and protects it from harmful radiation.

Air Pollution Flash Cards – Terms

particulate matter	ozone	oxygen	nitrogen oxides	hydrocarbon
volatile organic compounds	stratosphere	reformulated gasoline	pollutant	pollen

Air Pollution Flash Cards – Definitions

The powdery grains of flowering plants. Usually appears as a fine yellow dust.	An organic compound containing atoms of hydrogen and carbon.
A harmful chemical or waste material discharged into the water or atmosphere. Some are visible and some are invisible.	Gases that form when nitrogen and oxygen in the atmosphere are burned with fossil fuels at high temperatures.
RFG. A cleaner-burning form of gasoline that reduces the amount of pollutants emitted into the air through tailpipe and via evaporation from the gas tank. Oxygenates are a principal component.	A colorless, tasteless, odorless gaseous element that constitutes 21% of the atmosphere.
The layer of air that extends from about 10 to 30 miles above the Earth's surface.	O₃, ground-level ozone is the principal component of smog, created from chemical reactions of pollutants; VOCs and NO_x.
All VOCs contain organic carbon molecules that escape into the air easily. Many are also hazardous air pollutants that can cause very serious illnesses.	Very small particles of solid matter and/or droplets of liquid suspended in the air. May include materials that have been burned (ash, smoke, soot), dust, pollen, soil, chemicals , etc.

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