

# Acid Rain

## Menu

A. What is Acid Rain?

B. What Causes Acid Rain?

C. What is Affected by Acid Rain?

D. How Can We Fix the Problem?

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## A. What is Acid Rain?

Rain Water With a pH Below 5.6

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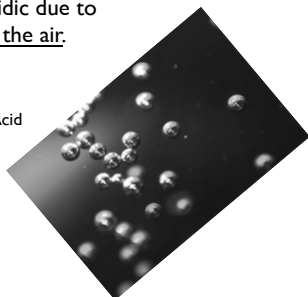
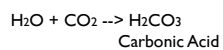
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## B. What Causes Acid Rain?

I. Rain is naturally acidic due to carbon dioxide in the air:



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## B. What Causes Acid Rain?

2. However, when fossil fuels such as coal are burned, several other gases are released into the air. When they combine with water, they form acids.



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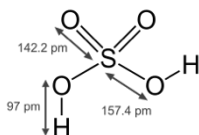
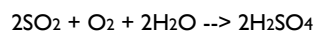
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## B. What Causes Acid Rain?

- a. Sulfur Dioxide - produces sulfuric acid



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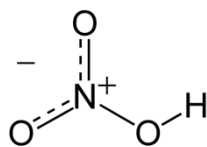
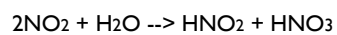
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## B. What Causes Acid Rain?

- b. Nitrogen Dioxide - produces nitrous and nitric acid



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### C. What is Affected by Acid Rain?

#### 1. Buildings & Statues



Acid Rain wears away limestone and marble.

Nino Barbieri, 2005

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### C. What is Affected by Acid Rain?

#### 2. Lakes



Acid Rain lowers the pH of lakes causing fish and plants to die.

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### C. What is affected by acid rain?

#### 3. Forests

Acid Rain strips minerals from the soil which are necessary for certain plants to grow.

[Article on Tree Damage](#)

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## D. How Can We Fix the Problem?

### 1. Restoration

Liming - adding bases like calcium carbonate to raise the pH of a lake.

Disadvantages:

- \* Expensive \$
- \* Poorly controlled liming can cause a lake to become too basic.

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## D. How Can We Fix the Problem?

### 2. Prevention

a. Treat the gases at the factory before they are released into the atmosphere (Expensive \$)



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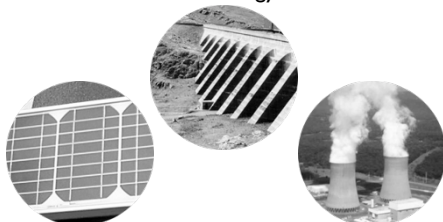
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## D. How Can We Fix the Problem?

### 2. Prevention

b. Find other energy sources.



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