

Clean Air / Dirty Air

Meet The Air Pollution Gremlins:

I'm **Smelly Sulfur Dioxide**. I come out of smokestacks on power plants and factories and wherever coal and fuel oil are burned. If there is enough of me, I can hurt your eyes, nose, and lungs, eat away iron and steel, turn leaves or plants yellow, and make the air hazy.



My name is **Nasty Nitrogen Dioxide**. You can tell who I am because of my yellow-brown color. I'm caused by fuels burned by cars, power plants, and other large industries. If enough of me escapes into the air, I can cause a smelly brown haze that shuts out the sunlight. I can also damage plants and metals and harm your lungs.



The Wise Old Owl

One night, wise old Professor Owl was flying over Fayetteville with Ollie Owl, one of his pupils. As they looked down, they could see so many lights shining in the windows of all the houses.

"The lights look pretty," said Ollie.

"They may look nice," said Professor Owl, "but I wish those humans would turn some of those lights off."

"How come?" asked Ollie. "They don't do any harm do they?"

"They certainly do," said the professor. "They cause a lot of air pollution."

"You mean that yucky **haze** that stinks and makes me cough? How could electric lights do that?"

Professor Owl replies, "**Electricity** is made from burning **fossil fuels** like coal, gas, or oil. The heat given off when these materials burn boils water and makes steam. The steam operates a **turbine** that makes electricity, which travels through wires to a local power station and our homes. Air pollution such as **Sulfur Dioxide**, **Nitrogen Dioxide**, and other **contaminants** come from the fires and fuels that burn to make electrical energy."

Why should we not let the hot water run when we're not using it?

Why should we not leave the lights on when we're not using them?

Why should we not keep the heat turned up high instead of wearing sweaters when it's cold?

It causes air pollution!

Vocabulary

Fossil Fuels - Coal, Oil, and natural gas formed from the remains of ancient plant and animal life.

Sulfur Dioxide - A colorless toxic gas used in many manufacturing processes and created when fossil fuels are burned.

Nitrogen Dioxide - A gas that forms when nitrogen and oxygen in the atmosphere are burned with fossil fuels at high temperatures.

Power Plant - A factory where electricity is generated.

Haze - Dust and smoke in the air that is difficult to see through.

Air Contaminant - Materials in the air, which causes it to be unclean and impure.

Turbine - An engine powered by fossil fuels, which makes electricity.

Electricity - Electric current used as a source of power.

GREEN HALLOWEEN

Compact fluorescent light bulb: Start your costume by donning a tight, white turtleneck and slim white pants or tights. Then inflate a dozen or so long, white balloons, tie them end to end, and wrap them around you from chest to hips for that unique, spiral-bound light bulb look.



Mother Nature/Mother Earth: A classic look that can be achieved in a variety of ways: swirly broom skirt with peasant blouse, sea-blue and grass-green sweater and tights, or even an Earth globe sandwich board. Dress up the look with a floral head-wreath; flowers, fish and animal cut-outs pinned to your clothes; and a fake bluebird or robin perched on your arm.

Tree hugger: Cut an extra pair of arm holes below the sleeves of an old sweatshirt or t-shirt, and stick your arms through those. Stuff the shirt's sleeves with rags, newspaper or socks, pin the ends together in front of you, then tuck a small, fake tree inside the false arms.



FAMPO
Fayetteville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization



Special Thanks to:

UP & COMING WEEKLY

For more information please contact Mark Nottingham at 910-678-7628.