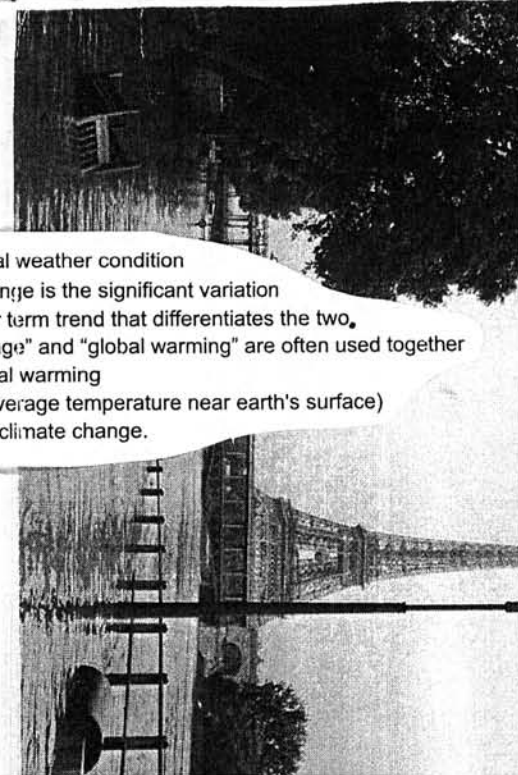


A variety of factors both natural and human can influence the earth's climate system. When energy from the sun reflects off the earth and back into space (mostly by clouds and ice), or when the earth's atmosphere releases energy, the planet cools. When the earth absorbs energy from the sun, or when atmospheric gases prevent heat released by the earth from radiating into space (the *Greenhouse effect*), it warms.

WHAT CAUSES IT?

WHAT IS CLIMATE CHANGE?

The word *climate* refers to the general weather condition of a certain place over many years, climate change is the significant variation of the average weather condition, it's the longer term trend that differentiates the two, . Even though the phrase "climate change" and "global warming" are often used together or to express the same feelings, global warming (the recent rise in the global average temperature near earth's surface) is just one aspect of climate change.



5 WAYS YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

1. COMPOST AT HOME.

2. SPEAK UP! (IF YOU SEE ANY FRIENDS OR FAMILY MAKING BAD ENVIRONMENTAL DECISIONS)

3. PROPERLY WEATHERIZE YOUR HOMES.

"ENERGY EFFICIENCY IS THE LOWEST COST WAY TO REDUCE EMISSIONS."

4. MAINTAIN YOUR VEHICLE'S TIRES.

"A SIMPLE TUNE UP CAN BOOST MPG ANYWHERE FROM 4% TO 14%."

5. PULL THE PLUG(S)

MANY DEVICES USE ENERGY EVEN WHEN THEY'RE NOT CHARGING, THIS "OLE WORD" ADDED UP ACROSS THE COUNTRY IS EQUIVALENT TO DO LARGE POWER PLANTS.

