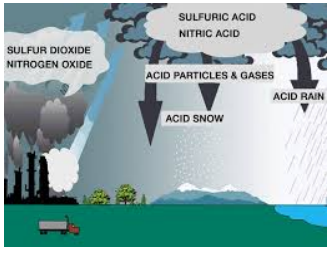
Green Glossary

Abiotic: Non-living; devoid of life.

Absorption: Process by which a substance of particle is drawn into the structure of another

Acid Free: - Free from traces of acid - made under neutralising conditions

Acid Rain: The precipitation of dilute solutions of strong mineral acids. It is formed by mixing in the atmosphere of various industrial pollutants (mainly sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxides) with naturally occurring oxygen and water vapour.



Aerosol: Suspended droplets of liquid or liquid dispersions in air.

Air barrier–A material installed around the home's frame to prevent or

reduce the infiltration of air into the interior that may be too hot, cold or moist for comfort.

Air Pollution:

The presence of contaminants or pollutants in the air interferes with human health or welfare, or produces other harmful environmental effects.

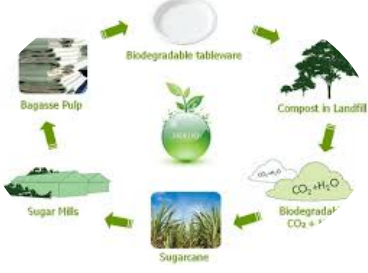
Alternative Energy: Alternative energy covers all those things that do not consume fossil fuel. It is usually environmentally sound, such as solar or wind energy.

Alternative Fuels : Alternative fuels are derived from resources other than petroleum. Some are produced domestically, reducing dependence on foreign oil, and some are derived from renewable sources. Often, they produce less pollution than gasoline or diesel.

Bamboo: It is nature's most sustainable resource, grown without pesticides or chemicals. It is biodegradable and naturally regenerative. It is a tropical grass with a broad root system. It produces an average of four to six new shoots per year, naturally replenishing itself and growing to heights of 60 feet or more. Some bamboo species grow up to four feet per day and can be harvested

every three to four years. There are over 1000 documented uses of bamboo, from furniture to ply boards that match the properties of conventional wood to a replacement for disposable plates and utensils. Bamboo is also used for spinning of fabrics and is for eco fashion with bamboo clothing. It is considered as eco fabric very healthy to the wearer.

Biodegradable: Biodegradable means capable of being slowly destroyed and broken down into very small parts by natural processes i.e., decomposed by bacteria or other living organisms. Wood, for example, is biodegradable, for example, while plastics are not.



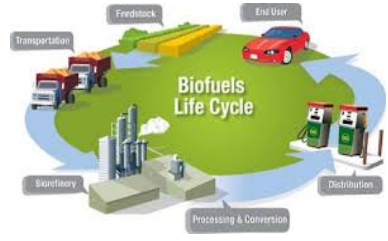
Biodegradable waste: Waste that can break down or rot naturally when attacked by bacteria. Examples include food and garden waste. Other kinds of waste are said to be non-biodegradable

Biodiesel: It is a renewable, clean-burning diesel replacement. It is an alternative fuel domestically

produced renewable fuel that can be manufactured from vegetable oils, animal fats, or recycled restaurant grease for use in diesel. It is safe and produces less air pollutants than petroleum-based diesel.

Bio-fuel: These are liquid and gaseous fuels fuel derived from plant and animal matter. Corn and soybeans are specifically grown for production of bio-fuel.

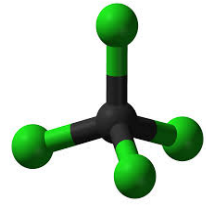
Biodiversity: Biodiversity or biological diversity means the variety of life found on Earth and all of the



natural processes. This includes ecosystem, genetic and cultural diversity, and the connections between these and all species. All have a very strong influence on each other.

Bio-Plastic: Bio-plastics are made from renewable, natural sources such as plant starch and sugar cane. These are naturally biodegrade once disposed of. Some bio-plastic products can even be composted in ordinary compost piles.

Carbon: A chemical element found in all plants and animals. It is found in fossil fuels – coal, oil and natural gas. When fossil fuels are burned the carbon is released into the air and can join with oxygen to make carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas.



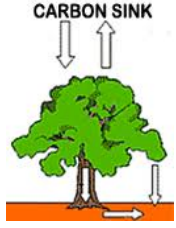
Carbon Emissions: Burning of fossil fuels like gas, coal or oil, carbon dioxide is released in the air. Plants and trees reabsorbed the carbon dioxide in a natural process. The

human activity that emits CO2 so quickly that plants and trees do not have chance of soaking it up. Carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions in the earth has increased and called carbon emission.

Carbon Footprint: The total amount of greenhouse gases produced directly and indirectly to support human activities. In other words, when you drive a car, heat your house or fly in an airplane, you produce a certain amount of carbon dioxide. Your carbon footprint is the sum of *all* emissions of carbon dioxide, which were created by your activities.

Carbon Neutral: It means removing as much carbon dioxide from the atmosphere as the action of organizations, businesses and individuals put the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. The overall goal of carbon neutrality is to achieve a zero carbon footprint or net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

Carbon Sink–Carbon dioxide is naturally absorbed by things such as oceans, forests and peat bogs. These are called carbon sinks and are a natural or artificial reservoir.



Certified Wood: Wood used in building supplied from sources that comply with sustainable forestry practices.

Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs): Stable, artificially created organic compounds containing carbon, chlorine and fluorine. Sometimes also contain hydrogen in place of one or more chlorines, they are called **hydrochlorofluorocarbons** or **HCFCs**. Chlorofluorocarbons, used primarily to facilitate cooling in refrigerators and air conditioners, have been found to deplete the stratospheric ozone layer which protects the earth and its inhabitants from excessive ultraviolet radiation.

Composting: It is a process to decompose plant remains and other once-living materials to make an earthy, dark, crumbly substance. It is excellent for gardening and farming as a soil conditioner, mulch, resurfacing material, or landfill cover.

Contaminant: Any physical, chemical, biological or radiological substance or matter that has an adverse effect on air, water or soil. It can harmfully affect living organisms through air, water, soil, and/or food.

Contamination: - The presence of an unwanted constituent even in a negligible amount in a material, in physical body, in the natural environment, at a workplace, etc.

Conservation: The practice of preserving, guarding, or protecting; wise use of resources.