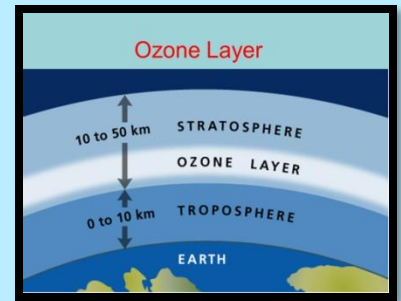


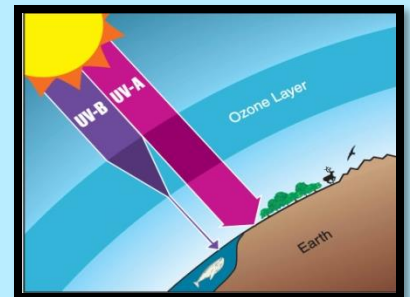
What is Ozone?

Ozone is a gas made up of three oxygen atoms (O₃). It can form and react under the action of light and that is present in two layers of the atmosphere: the stratosphere and the troposphere. It occurs naturally in small (trace) amounts in the upper atmosphere (the stratosphere). It protects life on Earth from the Sun's ultraviolet (UV) radiation. In the lower atmosphere (the troposphere) near the Earth's surface, ozone is created by chemical reactions between air pollutants from vehicle exhaust, gasoline vapors, and other emissions. At ground level, high concentrations of ozone are toxic to people and plants.



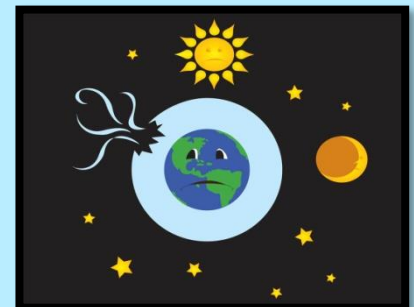
What is Ozone layer?

The ozone layer, a fragile shield of gas, protects the Earth from the harmful portion of the rays of the sun, thus helping preserve life on the planet.



What is Ozone hole?

For nearly a billion years, ozone molecules in the atmosphere have protected life on Earth from the effects of ultraviolet rays. Human activity has contributed to the deterioration of the ozone layer. The ozone "hole" is a reduction in concentrations of ozone high above the earth in the stratosphere. The ozone hole has steadily grown in size and length of existence.



What is the Montreal Protocol?

The Montreal Protocol is an international agreement which was drawn up in September 1987. Objective is to phase out the chemicals which are responsible for the Ozone hole. This Protocol stipulates that the production and consumption of compounds that deplete ozone in the stratosphere--chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), halons, carbon tetrachloride, and methyl chloroform--are to be phased out.



What is Ozone Day?

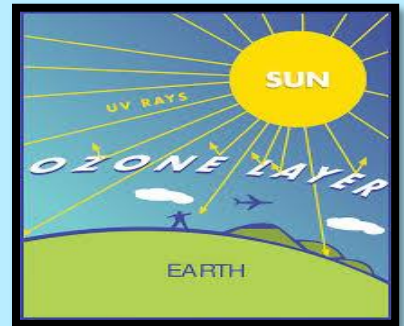
The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer was finally agreed upon on 16 September 1987 at the Headquarters of the International Civil Aviation Organization in Montreal. We celebrate this day as **Ozone Day**.



The year September 16, 2017 marks the 30th anniversary of the Montreal Protocol. As part of the anniversary celebrations, the Ozone Secretariat will launch a communication campaign ahead of World Ozone Day. The UN General Assembly proclaimed September 16, to be the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer on December 19th, 1994. The day was first time celebrated on September 16, 1995.

How can we mend the ozone hole?

The only way to mend the ozone hole is to stop releasing CFCs and other ozone depleting gases into the atmosphere. The ozone layer is like a sunscreen, and a thinning of it means that more ultra-violet rays are reaching us. Ozone layer stops too many 'ultra-violet rays' (UV rays) of the Sun gets through to the Earth - these are the rays that cause our skin to tan. Too much UV can cause skin cancer and also harm a plants and animals. Life on Earth could not exist without the protective shield of the ozone layer.



Use Ozone friendly Products

Buy the products which are not using the chemicals which deplete ozone. There are products using alternative to these chemicals. These are Refrigerators, Air conditioner, Fire fighting apparatus, Body Sprays, chemicals for agriculture purposes, Cleaning agents, Sterilants and many more.

