

Using Energy Resources without Damaging Nature

We often hear how important energy is in our daily life. If it wasn't for energy we wouldn't benefit from many things in our life. We have various types of eco friendly resources, however many people are still generating energy using fossil fuels. What small things can we do in our everyday life to save energy? How do people think about these alternatives? We have two types of fuels, non-renewable and renewable fuels. Non-renewable fuels are fuels that are made by nature and that take millions of years to form eg: oil, coal and natural gases. Renewable fuels are fuels that will never run out eg: the sun, wind etc.

Some of the resources we generate using renewable energy are solar water heaters, wind turbines and photovoltaic

Solar water heaters use the sun to heat up the water. Although it is very expensive to buy solar water heaters and resources that work with what the nature offers still this will cost our world and health much more. It will save our world because we stop polluting it with coal, oil and natural gas apart from saving them to last us longer. One must also keep in mind that the sun is priceless. Solar water heaters are usually installed on roofs and they must always face the sun so that water which is pumped up to its tank gets heated and so the water is heated according to the temperature of the sun itself. Below is a picture how it looks:



A wind turbine is a rotating machine that change energy of wind into kinetic energy. if the mechinical energy is change to electricity the machine is called a wind generator , wind turbine , wind power unit , wind energy converter or aero generator .

There are two major kinds of wind generators , those with a vertical axis, and those with a horizontal axis.Wind turbines can be used to generate large amounts of electricity in wind farms both onshore and offshore.

Turbines used in wind farms for commercial production of electric power are usually three-bladed and pointed into the wind by computer-controlled motors . All turbines are equipped with shutdown features to avoid damage at high wind speeds.



Photovoltaic/ solar cells are best known as a method for generating electricity by altering energy from the sun to electric energy.

This project was first noted by a french phycist, Edmund Becquerel who found that some materials produced a small amount of electric current when exposed to sun light.



As part of our YRE project we decided to carry out a survey, to find out if people use alternative energy sources rather than use non-renewable sources . We carried out the survey in the neighbourhood.

In all we did 20 questionnaires.

1. Question one : we tried to find out what type of fossil fuels people use, and how they use them .
2. Question two : If people are interested in buying any type of energy resource such as photovoltaic cells and solar panels etc..
3. Question three : if people are aware of saving energy by turning off electrical appliances.
4. Question four :To see if people know what will happen if we don't take action and stop using fossil fuels.
5. Question five : to see if people are interested in buying eco-friendly products .
6. Question six : to see if people are interested in investing in a type of energy resource that is renewable and why.

Survey Answers:

Do you use a lot of types of fossil fuels? 75% said Yes 25% said No

Are you interested in buying any types of energy resources? (Ex solar panels) 65% Yes 15% No 20% Not sure

Do you switch off any electrical appliance after you use them? 85% Yes 5% No 10% Not always

What do you think will happen in a couple of years if we don't take action in today's life?

Damage environment, pollution, toxic air, asthma and other sickness. Fossil fuels won't last, damage in ozone layer, the earth is demolished, more bills and Global warming. If you go to a shop do you try to buy eco-friendly products?

65% Yes 5% No 30% Not really

If you are planning to buy one of the energy resources which one would you choose? 55% Solar Panels 5% Wind turbines 40%

Photovoltaic

Solar Panels: No noise, a lot of sun Malta, save more, good price and more renewable prices.

Wind Turbines: Best for space (less space).

Photovoltaic: More energy, more cost effective and electricity.

As a deduction we conclude that saving energy is important and to do so now- a- days there are a lot of projects to help us to conserve energ. Although these are overpriced, one should have since it benefits the environment. On a concluding note we affirm that there are a lot of things one could make to use eco-friendly energy resources without damaging nature and our future.

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