

Carbon to the burning
of fossil fuels as



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Carbon dioxide is in a gaseous state at normal temperatures and its chemical equation is stated as CO₂. Many people associate this with the internal combustion engine which powers the modern automobile. In fact, the largest producer of carbon dioxide, in the United States, within the fossil fuel combustion group is the generation of electricity . Transportation comes in second place in the United States for CO₂ production levels. This includes the burning of gasoline, diesel fuel, and many other petroleum based fuels.

Although the burning of fossil fuels happens to be the largest source of CO₂ there are also natural causes of the gas within the atmosphere. The breathing of animals, volcanic eruptions, and release of CO₂ from the ocean, which happens to be a large carbon “ sink” , are all natural causes of carbon dioxide. One of the great parts about our Earth is the natural way it can clean itself. Carbon dioxide is a naturally occurring gas within our atmosphere. Due to this naturally occurring substance there is a natural way for decreasing the levels of CO₂. During this process carbon dioxide is drawn in through the leaves and stored within the main mass of the plant/tree. The carbon is then drawn into the soil through the roots of the agricultural crop or tree.

This is nature’s way of drawing the carbon dioxide out of the air and into the ground where it can be stored. Even though the carbon dioxide is being released into the air again this is how nature self regulates the CO₂ on its own. The CO₂ emissions today are higher than natural amounts due to the burning of fossil fuels as previously mentioned. Technology will help us to develop machines and devices to reduce the emission of carbon dioxide from the burning of fossil fuels. However, currently we do not have the technology

to completely eliminate the gas from our emission list. In order to reduce CO₂ emission levels action must be taken to enhance a device in the exhaust of modern machinery. New technologies could also be introduced to various other parts of the combustion process in order to make it more efficient.

The more efficient a combustion process is, less fuel will be needed and therefore less CO₂ will be produced from that running engine. A great way of reducing the carbon dioxide levels would be to switch over to a different type of fuel energy in order to receive the same amount of work time, or more, with less maintenance. One method of reducing CO₂ levels is to use Carbon sequestration. During this time there weren't any regulations on carbon dioxide levels emitted from production plants.

Therefore plants back then were producing large amounts of CO₂ and nobody thought anything of it until testing was done at a later date. This proves that the industrial revolution along with current fossil fuel burning has produced mass quantities of CO₂ and placed the gas into the atmosphere . The increase in carbon dioxide in our atmosphere is said to have been a contributing factor to the " global warming" effect. CO₂ is named a greenhouse gas along with other gases such as methane and nitrous oxide. These retain heat and emit it at the same time.