

PROTECTING ECOSYSTEMS

Interactions in the Environment #5

Ecological Footprint



Ecological footprint measures the amount of _____ and _____ needed to:

- _____ the resources humans use
- _____ the waste humans produce

What kinds of things do North Americans use or do that have a large ecological footprint?



Stewardship of Earth

- We need to be willing to decide what is more important: our _____, or our _____
- More people these days are concerned about the state of our planet, and want to do something to help.
- A _____ is a person who:
 - _____ about the environment
 - _____ behaviour to care for environment
 - _____ others (what they learned, how to help)



Ways to be a Steward: Preserve, Conserve, Restore

- _____ areas not yet damaged by creating conservations areas, parks, and natural reserves.
 - ✓ About 10% of Ontario's land is currently protected.
 - ✓ About 9% of Ontario's land is currently protected.

Is this enough?



- _____ environment by using the ecosystems wisely.
 - ✓ Practice organic farming, consume organic foods, and use a home composter.
 - ✓ Do the 'Rs':
 - _____ = electricity by turning off lights and unplugging appliances; garbage by buying goods with little to no packaging; buy what you need, not want
 - _____ = household items (e.g., cans, jars, clothes)
 - _____ = glass, plastic, paper, metals, food (composter)



- _____ land by taking steps to repair the damage done.
 - ✓ Steps one can take are:
 - _____ trees (habitat, prevent s oil erosion)
 - _____ bird nest sites
 - _____ garbage and clean up pollution
 - _____ native plants in gardens

