

Harmful effects of air conditioning on our environment.



We all can relate to the comforts of the air conditioner in both our summers and winters to ensure that the indoor workplaces are temperature controlled. In some places however they rely on air conditioning 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The issue however is that air conditioning has been found to have damaging effects on the environment and some organisations are calling for their use to be discontinued.

Air conditioning has been around for about a century and for many people, it is just used for comfort but for most people in these extremely hot conditions. Air conditioning is said to make the environment even hotter due to its contribution to global warming.

It seems the use of air conditioning is increasing pollution in the environment by releasing poisonous gases into the environment. These gases include the chlorofluorocarbons and hydro-chlorofluorocarbons. They have a negative impact on the environment as they are part of the greenhouse gases that trap heat and lead to depletion of the ozone layer. The problem is that the hotter our environment gets, the more reliant we become on air conditioning systems.

In addition to the negative effects on the environment, air conditioning can also become a health hazard especially to those that are absolutely reliant on it. With continuous use of an air conditioning system, the air filters lose a bit of their integrity and allow passage of harmful compounds from outside into your home or office. These can trigger allergies and in some cases even cause eye, nose and throat irritation.

Furthermore, there is the issue that air conditioning systems consume a lot more electricity and put a strain on the electricity generation industry. It also leads to more pollution considering the generation of electricity involves burning of coal in some countries. Not all countries are able to generate electricity with hydrothermal energy. In regions where generators are used as source of electricity, the pollution is even greater as generators utilize crude oil products and release carbon monoxide into the environment. The higher the demand exerted on the generator, the higher the release of carbon monoxide and other unhealthy gases.

With the world going green, air conditioning is becoming frowned at even though some regions cannot do without it else people might start combusting into flames. There have been a lot of ongoing research into greener cooling systems in order to save the environment but these innovations are not spreading quickly enough.

The latest advances include the use of geothermal cooling systems. These geothermal systems can also be used to provide heat and hot water in domestic and commercial regions.