



Trees are very important. During photosynthesis they keep the air clean and cool. A tree can clean toxic emissions from the air **exhausted** from an average car being driven 4,000 miles. Trees produce about 30% of the oxygen on Earth, the remaining (70%) is produced by plants in the ocean. **Shade** from trees can reduce up to 50% costs of using air conditioning during the summer. Trees provide us with food: from apples to oranges. Forests stop **erosion**. The roots of trees slow down and stop rainwater from running off the land. This reduces the amount of soil that goes into rivers and lakes. Trees provide shelter, food, recreation, beauty and homes for birds, insects, and other animals.

Trees are in danger because of **deforestation** and climate change. People cut down trees to build houses, cities, farms, and highways. We use trees to make paper, newspapers, buildings, and furniture.

Some trees, like the cocoa tree, that provides us with chocolate, might soon go extinct because of climate change.

1. exhausted= completely used
2. shade= something blocks the Sun
3. erosion= soil removed by rain
4. deforestation= cutting down trees