

**The Impact of COVID 19 on Environmental
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Abstract

COVID 19 is a global challenge affecting environmental conservation. There is need for sustained efforts to reduce negative environmental impacts. The objective of this paper is to review literature on the impact of COVID 19 on Environmental Conservation. Findings showed that in 2020, 71 countries representing 97% of fossil CO₂ emissions, decreased emissions at the peak of the country's confinement by 27%. Disruptions in aviation and shipping had the largest impact on emissions. Biomedical waste, masks, gloves, sanitizers, personal protective equipment is generated daily. 3.40 kg of waste is generated by each infected person. Hospitals in Wuhan, China generated 240 metric tons of medical waste per day compared to 50 tons per day pre-COVID-19. Recycling of solid waste has reduced since they increase risk to workers. COVID 19 is not detected in treated drinking water, surface or groundwater sources. COVID 19 in the excreta of patients has been reported. Oxidation ponds, chlorine, filtration and ultraviolet (UV) light can be used for treatment of waste water. Communities need to follow proper chlorination and boiling techniques to disinfect. Lockdown decreased movement of people in coastal areas, which led to clean beaches and marine biodiversity conservation. Eight lions in an Indian zoo tested positive for COVID-19. There is no evidence that animals can transmit the disease to humans. COVID 19 could be maintained for a prolonged time in the soil. Lockdowns resulted in reductions in transport and commercial activities, reducing noise levels in cities. New policies are needed to sustain reduced global emissions. Research is needed to investigate the relationship between air pollution and the spread of COVID-19. New approaches are needed for solid and waste water management. Wastewater could be used for early warning. Research is need on the impact of COVID 19 on soils, plants and the use of waste water.

Key words:

Covid-19, environment, scientific changes