ACID RAIN
What is acid rain?

Rain, snow, fog, or hail that carries pollutants (acids) from the air to the ground.
Acid rain:

• Changes with the weather and seasons

• Changes within short distances

• Can carry pollutants long distances, even to other countries
Natural Causes of Acid Rain

• Lightning
• Volcanoes
• Rotting plants and grasses
Man-Made Causes of Acid Rain

- Exhaust from cars, trucks, and buses
- Power plants that burn coal
- Pollution from industry
Location of Acid Rain

Highest in areas with:

- Large cities
- Large population
- Heavy car traffic
Acid Rain Can Be Harmful

**Forests & Lakes:**
- Leaves and trees become damaged
- Trees will more likely have a disease or insect problem
- Certain types of fish may die

**Plants & Crops:**
- Plant roots can’t grow properly
- Soils lose nutrients that are healthy for plants
Acid Rain Can Be Harmful

**Humans:**
- People can have respiratory problems when they inhale small droplets (fog)
- Lead and copper from rusty pipes can dissolve into drinking water

**Man-Made Materials:**
- Metal structures and cars become corroded
- Limestone buildings, tombstones, statues, and monuments wear down more quickly
Is Acid Rain Still a Problem?

Hydrogen ion wet deposition from measurements made at the Central Analytical Laboratory, 1985

Hydrogen ion wet deposition from measurements made at the Central Analytical Laboratory, 2013

Sites not pictured:
- Alaska 01: 0.02 kg/ha
- Alaska 02: 0.11 kg/ha
- Alaska 03: 0.02 kg/ha
- Alaska 97: 0.05 kg/ha
- Puerto Rico 20: 0.28 kg/ha
- British Columbia 22: 0.96 kg/ha
- Saskatchewan 21: 0.01 kg/ha

National Atmospheric Deposition Program/National Trends Network
http://nadp.isws.illinois.edu
Add in additional or specific information here
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