

# Reducing Greenhouse Gas Pollution

## Kyoto Protocol

- International agreements have been a method of trying to encourage the countries of the world to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.
- The Kyoto Protocol was an agreement that set up a **cap-and-trade system**, a system that provides a monetary incentive for the countries that reduced their carbon levels. This agreement was not very successful because it did not encourage countries to follow it.

### Study Tip

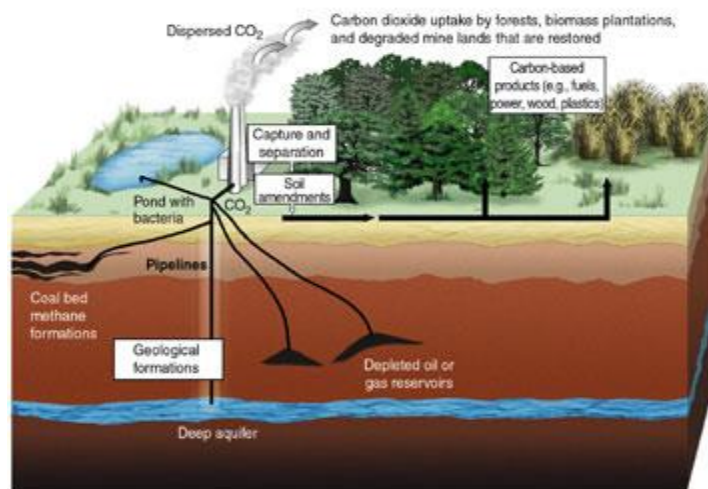
Carbon taxes work just like other taxes: they discourage activity by implementing fines.

## Carbon Taxes

- Some governments have placed **carbon taxes** on their citizens and businesses.
- A carbon tax fines the emissions of carbon dioxide, encouraging energy conservation.
- As an alternative to fossil fuels, people have begun to use **biofuels** to reduce costs.

## Carbon Capture and Sequestration

- **Carbon sequestration** is the method of taking carbon dioxide out of the air. This occurs naturally in forests, but can also occur artificially.
  - This carbon dioxide can be stored underground in salt layers or coal seams.
- Scientists are trying to find new ways to counteract global warming.
  - One idea would be sending mirrors into orbit around the Earth, partially blocking sunlight coming to Earth.



## Concept Check

- What was the Kyoto Protocol, and why didn't it work?
- What are carbon taxes, and what do they try to combat?
- What does carbon sequestration accomplish?