

# Mount Everest's Problems and Proposed Solutions Example

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** As you read the articles about various problems on Mount Everest and proposed solutions, summarize them in the chart below. Record your sources for easier retrieval in case you need to return to them while completing your unit project.

Problems	Solutions
<b>Source:</b> <i>Saving Mount Everest 2011</i>  "The enormous increase in visitors to the Everest region in recent decades has brought serious strains and severe negative effects on the sensitive environment of Mount Everest itself as well as along the many popular trails of Sagarmatha/Everest National Park"	<b>Source:</b> <i>Saving Mount Everest 2011</i>  "The Saving Mount Everest cleanup campaign increases awareness of the importance and relevance of waste management, implements national policies and a Code of Conduct for locals and tourists, installs at least 15 waste management plants, and specifically trains local institutions that operate the waste management plants."
<b>Source:</b> <i>Saving Mount Everest 2011</i>  "[There is] no functioning waste management system and little local experience or know-how of handling such large amounts of rubbish in an environmentally sustainable way."	<b>Source:</b> <i>Mount Everest Biogas Project</i>  "The Mount Everest Biogas Project has designed a new, 100 percent sustainable solution to address this increasingly detrimental problem: a first-of-its-kind solar-powered human waste biogas system. When constructed, the project will be the world's highest altitude anaerobic digester with a unique twist: it will be the only biogas digester installed at extreme altitude fueled solely by human waste."
<b>Source:</b> <i>Saving Mount Everest 2011</i>  "Existing rules and regulations on waste management are simply not enough, nor are they effectively enforced."	<b>Source:</b> <i>Environmental Issues on Mount Everest</i>  "Many locals in small towns or villages begin to use solar power system and handle the trash in a recycle way. Instead of burying the rubbish in the mountain, they are prone to use yaks to carry non-biodegradable rubbish out of mountain for disposal. Some makeshift restrooms are also built in Everest Base Camp."

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<p><b>Source:</b> <i>Mount Everest Biogas Project</i></p> <p>"Tons of human waste is left behind on Everest expeditions polluting local water and threatening Everest's fragile environment."</p> <p>"Human waste dumped in Gorak Shep has ballooned to 11,793 kilograms (26,000 pounds) annually, causing environmental degradation and posing severe risks to clean water sources."</p>	<p><b>Source:</b> <i>Environmental Issues on Mount Everest</i></p> <p>"In 2011, Everest Summiteers Association organized by Sherpas teamed up with Nepalese government and collected 1.5 tons of garbage, which included oxygen cylinders, ice piton, and scraps from a helicopter and had them shifted to Kathmandu."</p>
<p><b>Source:</b> <i>Environmental Issues on Mount Everest</i></p> <p>"Everest is no longer a wilderness experience," says mountaineer Graham Hoyland. "It's a McDonald's experience."</p> <p>"During the high season, the human waste, abandoned mountaineering gear (e.g., empty oxygen cylinders, food wrappers, broken tents, batteries) and other trash become the hazardous by-product of relentless commercial Everest expeditions."</p>	<p><b>Source:</b> <i>Environmental Issues on Mount Everest</i></p> <p>"With a twist by artists, [garbage was] turned into pieces of art. All were sold for the clean-up fund."</p>
<p><b>Source:</b> <i>Environmental Issues on Mount Everest</i></p> <p>"That was also the very reason why as many as 200 corpses are still left on the way to the top of Mount Everest. Carrying trash and bodies down the mountain was not only extremely dangerous, but also technically expensive."</p>	<p><b>Source:</b> <i>Environmental Issues on Mount Everest</i></p> <p>"Nepalese government demands mountaineers to bring back its waste, otherwise they will face a \$4,000 fine for their negligence."</p>
<p><b>Source:</b> <i>The Mission to Cleanup Mount Everest</i></p> <p>"The Sagarmatha Pollution Control Committee lacks the resources to keep up with all the groups climbing Everest and to make sure that do indeed carry all their equipment back down to Kathmandu."</p>	<p><b>Source:</b> <i>The Mission to Cleanup Mount Everest</i></p> <p>"The group has lodged a plan with the government that calls for tougher penalties against litterbugs at Everest and the surrounding areas. They are also pushing for the installation of portable toilets at base camp and investment in waste treatment facilities—which currently do not exist in the region—with proposals for five incinerators and sewage treatment plants."</p>

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<p><b>Source:</b> <i>The Mission to Cleanup Mount Everest</i></p> <p>“Alton Byers of the Mountain Institute came across a 10-square meter (108-square-foot) open pit of human waste, hauled down from Everest, close to a seasonal stream. The pit had been covered over by the time of a subsequent visit in May.”</p>	<p><b>Source:</b> <i>Maxed Out on Everest</i></p> <p>“We can manage the numbers if all the operators talk to each other,” Brice insists. “It’s all about good communication.”</p>
<p><b>Source:</b> <i>The Mission to Cleanup Mount Everest</i></p> <p>“With climate change, snow and ice on mountaintops is melting, exposing even more rubbish.”</p>	<p><b>Source:</b> <i>Maxed Out on Everest</i></p> <p>“Fewer permits, smaller teams, certify outfitters, require experience, Leave No Trace practices, remove bodies”</p>
<p><b>Source:</b> <i>Maxed Out on Everest</i></p> <p>“Traffic chokes the Hillary Step on May 19, 2012. Some climbers spent as long as two hours at this 12-meter (40-foot) rock wall below the summit, losing body heat. Even so, 234 people reached the top on this day. Four climbers died.”</p>	<p><b>Source:</b> <i>Vanity, Pollution, and Death on Everest</i></p> <p>“Perhaps the best way to help protect Everest would be to stop overstating the importance of its summit and the alleged glory that comes out of this enterprise. Instead we have something to learn from the native Himalayan populations who respectfully regarded Sagarmatha as “Goddess Mother of the Universe.”</p>
<p><b>Source:</b> <i>Maxed Out on Everest</i></p> <p>“Although efforts to control pollution and haul out refuse have seen success at Base Camp, abandoned tents, food waste, empty oxygen bottles, and other types of junk continue piling up at higher elevations.”</p>	<p><b>Source:</b> <i>Maxed Out on Everest</i></p> <p>“The half without experience are the most likely to die.” Too often, it’s not the mountain’s harshness that kills climbers but their own hubris.”</p>

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<p><b>Source:</b> <i>Maxed Out on Everest</i></p> <p>"Today, with hyper-accurate satellite forecasts, all teams know exactly when a weather window will open up, and they often go for the top on the same days."</p>	<p><b>Source:</b> <i>Maxed Out on Everest</i></p> <p>"The two standard routes, the Northeast Ridge and the Southeast Ridge, are not only dangerously crowded but also disgustingly polluted with garbage leaking out of the glaciers and pyramids of human excrement befouling the high camps."</p>
<p><b>Source:</b> <i>Vanity, Pollution, and Death on Everest</i></p> <p>"Water scarcity, the result of receding glaciers due to global warming, as well as water pollution induced by contamination of freshwater with human and animal waste, have led many environmentalists to raise the alarm."</p>	<p><b>Source:</b> <i>Vanity, Pollution, and Death on Everest</i></p> <p>"The central government may not be willing to implement a too-tight regulation of the number of groups ascending the higher peaks. Government officials think this would imply a reduction in the flow of cash pouring into the tourism sector, and Nepal is highly dependent on this income."</p>
<p><b>Source:</b></p>	<p><b>Source:</b></p>
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