**2.2 Vocabulary- Lithosphere and Humans**

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| Term | Definition | Example (picture AND description) |
| mining | the act of extracting ores or coal etc. from the earth |  |
| urbanization | the social process whereby cities grow and societies become more urban |  |
| urban sprawl | the growth of low density development outward from the edges of a city |  |
| deforestation | The removal of trees faster than forests can replace themselves. |  |
| renewable resources | a natural resource that can be replaced at the same rate at which the resource is consumed |  |
| nonrenewable resources | A resource that, once used, cannot be replaced in a reasonable amount of time, resources such as fossil fuels, which cannot be made again. |  |
| sustainability | the ability to meet humanities current needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs |  |
| conservation | the preservation and careful management of the environment and of natural resources |  |
| contour plowing | plowing fields along the curves of a slope to prevent soil loss |  |
| terracing | Creating flat platforms in the hillside that provide a level planting surface, which reduces soil runoff from the slope. |  |
| crop rotation | The practice of rotating use of different fields from crop to crop each year, to avoid exhausting the soil |  |
| overgrazing | Destruction of vegetation caused by too many grazing animals consuming the plants in a particular area so they cannot recover |  |
| underground mining | involves the sinking of shafts to reach underground deposits. In this type of mining, networks of tunnels are dug or blasted and humans enter these tunnels in order to manually retrieve the coal. |  |
| open pit mining | Removing minerals such as gravel, sand, and metal ores by digging them out of the earth's surface and leaving an open pit. |  |
| reclamation | the process of returning land to its original state after mining |  |
| biodiversity | the variety of species living within an ecosystem |  |
| monoculture | farming strategy in which large fields are planted with a single crop, year after year |  |
| bioremediation | the act of treating waste or pollutants by the use of microorganisms (as bacteria) that can break down the undesirable substances |  |
| stewardship | responsibility for conserving and restoring the Earth's resources for future generations |  |
| peat | partially carbonized and decayed plant matter saturated with water; typically found in bogs; can be burned as fuel |  |
| mitigation | The policy of constructing or creating man-made habitats, such as wetlands, to replace those lost to development |  |