# Energy and the Modern World

Currently the world’s use of energy generated from fossil fuels is causing problems in relation to greenhouse gas emissions and the ozone layer.

The ozone layer is an insulating layer of gases (e.g. carbon dioxide and methane) that surrounds the earth. The effect is like that of a greenhouse, where the heat of the sun is trapped beneath this layer and moderates the earth’s temperatures. However, as more fossil fuels are used to create energy, more gases such as carbon dioxide are released into the atmosphere, creating a thicker blanket of gases around the world. In effect, the temperature of the earth is prone to rise as the sun’s heat cannot escape as readily.

## Fixing the Problem

There are obvious solutions to this problem, but the reality of incorporating these changes around the world is another kettle of fish.

First of all it is important to gauge our energy usage and then you have a tangible measurement that you can aim at reducing. This measurement is called our carbon footprint.