### 18.4

## The Environmental Movement



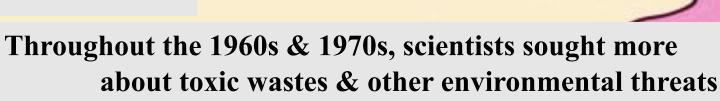
#### As a Young Historian, I will be able to...

- Assess the causes and effects of the environmental movement.
- Analyze why environmental protection became a controversial issue

## **Environmental Activists Sound the Alarm**

Toxic Waste- Poisonous byproduct of human activity.

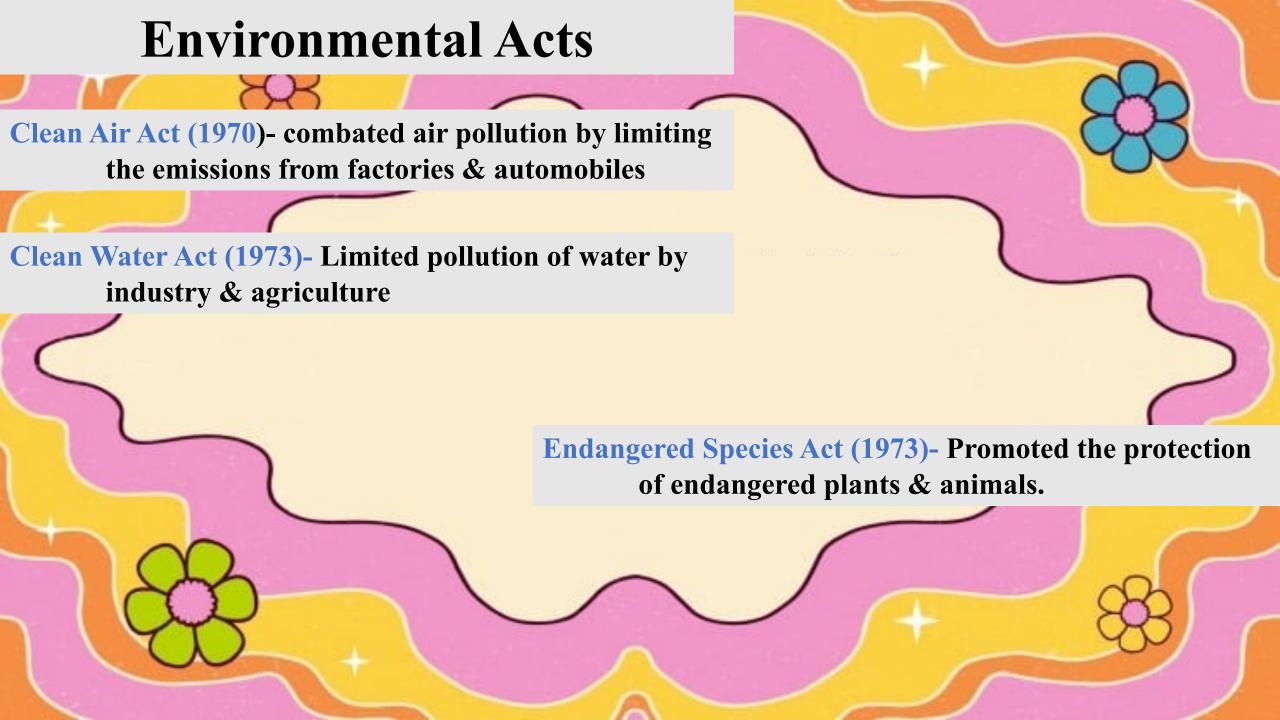
Acid Rain- Moisture in the air caused by the mixing of water with chemicals produced by the burning of fossil fuels

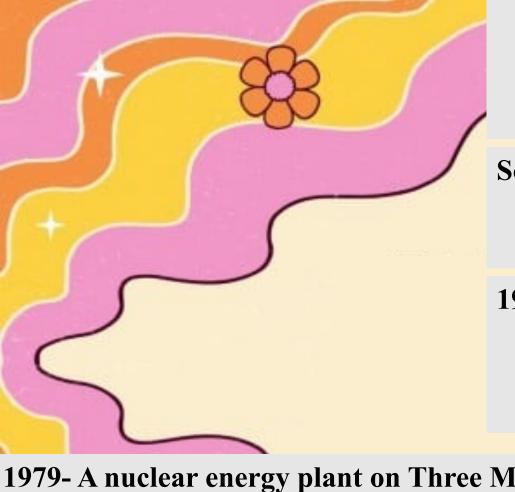


Rachel Carson wrote the book *Silent Spring* to describe the deadly impact pesticides had on birds & other animals

She argued that human activity was altering the environment, causing Congress to limit pesticide DDT & create activism among Americans







# Impact of Environmental Regulations

Some people argued for more far-reaching actions, some believed that the government had gone too far & threatened property rights (5<sup>th</sup> Amendment)

1978- The EPA investigated Love Canal, New York. Found the community had high rates of birth defects & cancer due to tons of toxic materials that were dumped in the area over decades

1979- A nuclear energy plant on Three Mile Island in Pennsylvania began a meltdown. It was contained, but people began to fear nuclear power

Americans are still divided about the environment & how to protect it today

