**Earth and Space Enriched**

1. **Soil pH**

Soil that is too acidic or too basic can prevent or slow down plant growth due to its inability to properly absorb nutrients. Ideally, soil should be slightly acidic with a pH between 6 and 7.

**Buffering capacity**: The ability for soil to resist changes in pH when substances which are too acidic or too basic are added to it.

1. **Winds**

**Prevailing winds**: Major wind currents that blow in a particular direction according to global patterns of movement.

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| **Polar easterlies** | polar regions | east to west | Poles to 60th parallel |
| **Trade winds** | near equator | east to west | 30th parallel to equator |
| **Westerlies** | middle latitudes | west to east | Between 60th and 30th parallels |



Prevailing winds pose a problem when there are contaminants and pollution in the air. They current spreads the pollutant over a large area.