



Water Pollution

Water pollution: Contamination of water bodies like rivers, ponds, oceans etc. with undesirable substances is called water pollution.

Water pollutants: Detergents, fertilizers and pesticides, chemicals and effluents



Image of Water Pollution

Causes of Water Pollution:

- Discharge from sewage treatment plants and sewage pipes from cities and towns.
- Industrial effluents released by factories into water bodies.
- Over utilization of chemicals like pesticides and fertilizers in agriculture.
- Release of heated or radioactive water by power plants into water.
- Oil spills and leakages from tankers and oil rigs during water-way transportation.
- Growth of algae in water bodies.

Harmful Effects of Water Pollution:

- Danger to aquatic living organisms this lead to disturbance in the food chain of ecosystem.
- Encourage waterborne diseases like Cholera, Typhoid and Diarrhea etc.

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- Toxic chemicals may alter the acidity and conductivity of water which may cause death to human beings.
- Many skin related problems.

Control of Water pollution:

- Disposal of sewage water after proper sewage treatment.
- Avoid the use of fertilizers before rain
- Segregation of wastes (radio-active elements) before they deliver into water bodies.

Noise Pollution:

Noise pollution: Noise pollution is an excessive and displeasing environmental noise that disrupts the activity or balance of human or animal life.

Sources of Noise Pollution:

- Vehicular traffic, like cars, buses, airplanes, trains etc.
- Industrial processes like stone crushing, making of steel plates, sawing, printing, etc.
- Construction works like roads, buildings etc.
- Various household activities like celebrations of festivals using crackers and Music Rock Bands.

Effects of Noise Pollution:

- Temporary or permanent loss of hearing due to high noise pollution.
- Causes physical illness like hypertension, cardio vascular problems and high blood pressure.
- Also causes mental illness like headache, lack of sleep etc.

Control Measures:

- Need to reduce utilization of substances like crackers
- Vehicles should reduce noise levels by keeping them in proper condition.
- Traffic should be handled properly.
- Construction and industrial activities should keep sound absorbers to reduce noise.

Soil Pollution:

Soil Pollution: Contamination or degradation of soil with undesirable substances is called Soil pollution. This is also called as Soil Degradation.

Causes of Soil Degradation:

- Excessive use of chemicals like fertilizers and pesticides.
- Excessive use of plastics
- Overgrazing by animals in the fields.

Effects of Soil Degradation:

- Reduce the yield potential of the soil due to lack of humus (natural nutrients and organic matter in soil).
- Lead to pollution of ground water due to excess chemicals in soil.
- Contamination of food due to chemicals that may result diseases and death.
- Imbalance of biodiversity due to extinction of certain plants and animals.

Habitat Degradation: It is the process in which habitats lose their normal functioning or quality support native life. This leads to a reduced carrying capacity of animals or plants in that particular area.

Causes of Habitat Degradation:

- Deforestation and wood extraction for the timber industry.
- Conversion of forest land into agricultural land and for construction of houses.
- Slashing or slash-and-burn agricultural methods, where forests are burnt and crops grown using the ashes as a natural fertilizer.

Effects of Habitat Degradation:

- Imbalance in biodiversity. That leads to extinction of certain plants and animals.
- Lead to natural disasters like floods, drought, crop failure and water contamination.

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