



POLLUTION & TYPES OF POLLUTION

Pollution is the introduction of contaminants into an environment, of whatever predetermined or agreed upon proportions; these contaminants cause instability, disorder, harm or discomfort to the physical systems or living organisms therein.

Pollution can take the form of chemical substances, or energy, such as noise, heat, or light energy. Pollutants, the elements of pollution, can be foreign substances or energies, or naturally occurring; when naturally occurring, they are considered contaminants when they exceed natural levels.

Major forms of pollution

The major forms of pollution are listed below along with the particular pollutants relevant to each of them:

- **Air pollution**, the release of chemicals and particulates into the atmosphere. Common air pollutants include carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and nitrogen oxides produced by industry and motor vehicles. Photochemical ozone and smog are created as nitrogen oxides and hydrocarbons react to sunlight.
- **Water pollution**, by the release of waste products and contaminants into surface runoff into river drainage systems, leaching into groundwater, liquid spills, wastewater discharges, eutrophication and littering.
- **Soil contamination** occurs when chemicals are released by spill or underground leakage. Among the most significant soil contaminants are

hydrocarbons, heavy metals, herbicides, pesticides and chlorinated hydrocarbons.

- **Radioactive contamination**, resulting from 20th century activities in atomic physics, such as nuclear power generation and nuclear weapons research, manufacture and deployment.
- **Noise pollution**, which encompasses roadway noise, aircraft noise, industrial noise as well as high-intensity sonar.
- **Light pollution**, includes light trespass, over-illumination and astronomical interference.
- **Visual pollution**, which can refer to the presence of overhead power lines, motorway billboards, scarred landforms (as from strip mining), open storage of trash or municipal solid waste.
- **Thermal pollution**, is a temperature change in natural water bodies caused by human influence, such as use of water as coolant in a power plant.

List of environmental issues

This is a **list of environmental issues** that are due to human activity.

- **Climate change** — Global warming • Fossil fuels • Sea level rise • Effects of the automobile on societies
- **Conservation** — Genetic erosion • Holocene extinction event • Invasive species • Species extinction • Habitat destruction • Habitat fragmentation • Pollinator decline • Coral bleaching • Whaling • Beached whale
- Dams - Environmental impacts of dams
- **Energy** - Energy conservation • Renewable energy • Efficient energy use • Renewable energy commercialization
- **Genetic engineering** — Genetic pollution

- **Intensive farming** — Overgrazing • Irrigation • Monoculture • Environmental effects of meat production
- **Land degradation** — Land pollution • Desertification
 - Soil** — Soil conservation • Soil erosion • Soil contamination • Soil salination
- **Nanotechnology** — Nanotoxicology • Nanopollution
- **Nuclear issues** — Nuclear fallout • Nuclear meltdown • Nuclear power
- **Overpopulation** — Burial
- **Ozone depletion**
- **Pollution** — Air pollution • Light pollution • Noise pollution • Thermal pollution
 - Water pollution** — Acid rain • Eutrophication • Ocean dumping • Oil spills • Water crisis
- **Resource depletion** — Exploitation of natural resources
 - Fishing** — Blast fishing • Bottom trawling • Cyanide fishing • Ghost nets • Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing • Environmental effects of fishing • Overfishing
 - Logging** — Clearcutting • Deforestation • Illegal logging
 - Mining** — Acid mine drainage
- **Toxins** — Chlorofluorocarbons • DDT • Dioxin • Heavy metals • Herbicides • Pesticides • Toxics use reduction • Toxic waste
- **Urban sprawl**
- **Waste** — Waste disposal incidents

Source:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pollution>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_environmental_issues