INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

Pollution: is the addition to the ecosystem of something which has a detrimental effect on it .

 Pollution:is the presence in or introduction into the environment of a substance or thing that has harmful or poisonous effects.

 Pollution: is something introduced into the environment that is dirty, unclean or has a harmful effect.

*Pollution: is the presence of unwanted substances in an environment. It is often the result of human interference. .*

**Different Types of pollution** are categorized based on the part of the environment which they affect or result which the particular [**pollution**](http://readanddigest.com/what-is-pollution/) causes. Accordingly, the main **types of pollution** are:

* Water Pollution
* Air Pollution
* Soil Pollution
* Thermal Pollution
* Radioactive Pollution
* Noise Pollution

A **pollutant** is a substance or energy introduced into the environment that has undesired effects. A pollutant may cause long- or short-term damage by changing the growth rate of plant or animal species, or by interfering with human amenities, comfort, health, or property values. Some pollutants are [biodegradable](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biodegradable) and therefore will not persist in the [environment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Environment_%28biophysical%29) in the long term. However the degradation products of some pollutants are themselves polluting such as the products DDE and DDD produced from degradation of [DDT](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/DDT).

TYPES OF POLLUTANTS:

**Biological pollutants: LIKE**  Molds, mildew, fungi, bacteria and dust mites are some of the main biological pollutants inside the house. Some, such as pollen, are generated outside the home. Mold and mildew are generated in the home and release spores into the air. Mold, mildew, fungi and bacteria are often found in areas of the home that have high humidity levels, such as bathrooms, kitchens, laundry rooms or basements.

**Chemical pollutants**:Industrial and agricultural work involves the use of many different chemicals that can run-off into WATER,AIR AND SOIL and pollute THEM.LIKE:

* Metals and solvents from industrial work can pollute rivers and lakes. These are poisonous to many forms of aquatic life and may slow their development, make them infertile or even result in death.
* Pesticides are used in farming to control weeds, insects and fungi. Run-offs of these pesticides can cause water pollution and poison aquatic life and soil in addition to air. Subsequently, birds, humans and other animals may be poisoned if they eat infected fish, plants and animals.
* Petroleum is another form of chemical pollutant that usually contaminates water through oil spills when a ship ruptures. Oil spills usually have only a localised affect on wildlife but can spread for miles. The oil
can cause the death of many fish and stick to the feathers of seabirds causing them to lose the ability to fly.

**Physical pollutants:**

* A pollutant characterized by its influence on environmental conditions caused by forces and operations of physics, such as noise, microwave radiation, vibration, etc.