WATER POLLUTION AND EUTROPHICATION



WASTEWATER

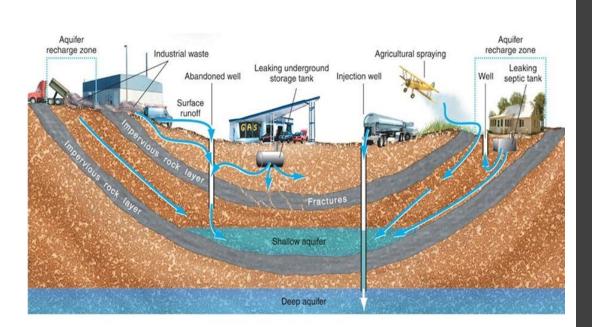
Almost all the ways that we use water contributes to water pollution.

What are some ways that we use water?

Wastewater is water that contains wastes from homes or industry.

At a wastewater treatment plant, water is filtered and treated to make the water clean enough to return to a river or lake.

https://www.youtube.com /watch?v=YW6GBciRHLg



GROUNDWATER POLLUTION

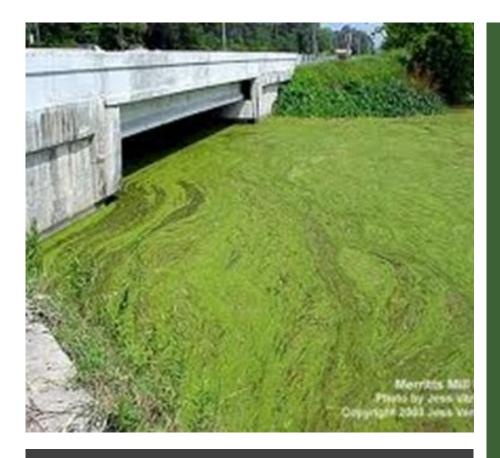
Pollutants usually enter groundwater when polluted surface water percolates down from the Earth's surface.

Pesticides, herbicides, chemical fertilizer, petroleum products, septic tanks, and unlined landfills are common groundwater pollutants.

OCEAN POLLUTION

Pollutants are often dumped directly into the ocean, but at least 85 percent of ocean pollution, including pollutants such as oil, toxic wastes, and medical wastes, comes from activities on land, near the coasts.

What very important coastal type of ecosystem will this hurt the most?



ARTIFICIAL EUTROPHICATION

Artificial eutrophication is a process that increases the amount of nutrients in a body of water through human activities.

In bodies of water containing larger amounts of phosphorus and nitrogen, populations of algae can rapidly grow and form algal blooms.

Large patches of algae reduce sunlight for aquatic plants, which causes them to die.

As the algae and plants die, bacteria decompose their dead bodies. This process uses up dissolved oxygen. This causes fish and other organisms to suffocate in the oxygen-depleted water.

