



SOIL POLLUTION

Soil pollution is defined as, “*the contamination of soil by human and natural activities which may cause harmful effects on living beings*”.

sources(causes) of soil pollution:

- **Industrial wastes:** Pulp and paper mills, chemical industries, oil refineries, sugar factories.
- **Urban wastes:** Plastics, Glasses, metallic cans, fibers, papers, rubbers, street sweepings, and other discarded manufactured products.
- **Agricultural practices:** Huge quantities of fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, and weedicides are added to increase the crop yield.
- Apart from these farm wastes, manure, slurry, are reported to cause soil pollution.
- **Radioactive pollutants:** These are resulting from explosions of nuclear dust and radioactive wastes
- **Biological agents:** Soil gets large quantities of human, animal and birds excreta.

Effects of soil pollution:

- Alter the chemical and biological properties of soil.
- Reduce the fertility of the soil.
- Hazardous chemicals enter into human food chain from the soil and finally lead to serious effects.
- Radioactive wastes penetrate the soil and accumulate there by creating land pollution.



Control measures of soil pollution:

- Population growth
- Decrease of the available farm land due to urbanization
- Forestry and farm practices
- Proper dumping of unwanted materials
- Production of natural fertilizers
- Proper Hygienic condition
- Public awareness
- Recycling and Reuse of wastes
- Ban on Toxic chemicals.