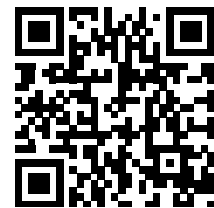


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Understanding Water Pollution



Water is the _____ of life on Earth, but it is facing a major threat from pollution. Every year, millions of tons of trash, chemicals, and other _____ enter our rivers, lakes, and oceans, harming the _____. The most common pollutants include plastic waste, which takes hundreds of years to _____, and harmful chemicals from industrial _____. These substances can kill marine life, damage _____, and contaminate the water we depend on for drinking and agriculture. One of the most affected _____ is the Great Barrier Reef, where pollution has contributed to the bleaching of _____. Another significant issue is oil spills, which can devastate marine environments for _____. Agriculture also plays a role in water pollution through the use of _____ and fertilizers that run off into water bodies, causing _____. This process leads to the growth of algae blooms that deplete oxygen in the water, killing fish and other _____ life. On a global scale, water pollution affects not just wildlife but also human _____, as contaminated water sources can lead to diseases like cholera and hepatitis. Efforts to _____ water pollution involve stricter regulations on waste disposal and encouraging the use of environmentally friendly _____. By understanding the impact of our actions on water bodies, we can help protect this essential _____ for future generations.

- | | | | | | | | |
|------------|----------|----------------|--------|------------|--------|----------|-----------|
| pesticides | resource | decompose | health | aquatic | corals | habitats | ecosystem |
| processes | decades | eutrophication | source | pollutants | reduce | products | areas |