

The 5 main Pollutants: Fill in the blanks below with the letter of the correct pollutant from the following list:

a) Sediment b) Litter c) Chemicals/Oil d) Nutrients e) Bacteria

1. _____ This is one of the easiest pollutants to see. Some examples of this pollutant are food wrappers, paper, and unwanted items like broken toys or old clothes. This pollutant can clog storm drains and wild animals often eat it believing it is food.
2. _____ This pollutant makes the plants in the estuary grow too much, upsetting nature's fragile balance. When the plants and algae in a habitat overgrow, it is difficult for many animals to continue living there.
3. _____ This pollutant comes mainly from pet waste left in our yards and streets. When it washes through storm drains to the estuary and the ocean, the animals can get very sick.
4. _____ This type of pollutant is made up of bug poisons, cleaning agents, and fluids that spill from cars. Poisons kill the creatures in the estuary and ocean, and oil makes it difficult for them to move, see and breathe.
5. _____ Many people believe that this pollutant is okay because it is "natural." But when storm drains gather dirt and leaves from all over your city and send them to the same place—your local estuary and beach—they disrupt the natural flow of water and negatively change the animals' natural habitat.

These are the five main types of pollution that are washing from our neighborhoods to the estuary and ocean through storm drains. Once the pollution is there, the animals must live in it. People are responsible for this pollution and it is up to us to help.

What I can do to help:

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| Bacteria | 1. Sweep loose dirt and leaves into a dustpan and throw them away / don't use a hose |
| Sediments | 2. Read directions on fertilizers / don't use too much |
| Litter | 3. Read directions on all chemicals before use and fix leaky cars |
| Nutrients | 4. Pick up pet waste; don't leave it on the ground |
| Chemicals and Oil | 5. Pick up trash; don't throw it on the ground; recycle |