

Atmospheric Pollution

Fundamentals of Chemistry

Air Pollution and Acid Precipitation

Air Pollution is the harmful change in the natural air. It includes physical, chemical and biological agents that modify the natural characteristics of the atmosphere.

Natural sources of air pollution are volcanic activity, dust storms, forest fires, scattering pollen grains.

Acid Rain causes extensive damage to the environment, vegetation – as it makes the soil acidic - ; fertility of soil is destroyed, as the activity of nitrogen forming bacteria of leguminous family is inhibited; Water bodies and marine animals are adversely affected; Building and historical monuments are damaged by acid rain

Man made sources of air pollution include industrial processes, use of fossil fuels, transport industry, construction and demolition, dumping of waste, automobile exhaust.

70% of Acid Rain occurs due to presence of sulphur dioxide from combustion of fossil fuels.

Acid Rain occurs when rainwater has an excessive amount of acid in it than normal. Rain water is normally acidic, as carbon dioxide in the air combines with water molecules to form a weak carbonic acid (H_2CO_3). This natural reaction continues till the water solution becomes saturated by attaining an acidic pH of 5.6. If other gases replace CO_2 , the pH level becomes less than 5.6, to cause acid precipitation, or deposition that includes, rain, snow, fog, and sleet.

Global Warming and Green house effect

