Introduction:

**Air pollution** is the presence of substances in the [atmosphere](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atmosphere) that are harmful to the [health](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Health) of [humans](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human) and other [living beings](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Outline_of_life_forms), or cause damage to the [climate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Climate) or to materials. There are different types of air pollutants, such as gases (such as [ammonia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ammonia), [carbon monoxide](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carbon_monoxide), [sulphur dioxide](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sulfur_dioxide), [nitrous oxides](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NOx), [methane](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Methane) and [chlorofluorocarbons](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chlorofluorocarbons)), [particulates](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Particulates) (both organic and inorganic), and [biological molecules](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biomolecule). Air pollution may cause diseases, allergies and even death to humans; it may also cause harm to other living organisms such as animals and food crops, and may damage the [natural](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_environment) or [built environment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Built_environment). Both human activity and natural processes can generate air pollution.

Causes of atmospheric pollution:

Air pollution is caused by solid and liquid particles and certain gases that are suspended in the air. These particles and gases can come from car and truck exhaust, factories, dust, pollen, mold spores, volcanoes and wildfires. The solid and liquid particles suspended in our air are called **aerosols**. When particles in the air combine with ozone, they create smog. **Smog** is a type of air pollution that looks like smoky fog and makes it difficult to see.

Effects:

Environment-Air pollution has a major impact on the process of plant evolution by preventing photosynthesis in many cases, with serious consequences for the purification of the air we breathe.

Global Warming-On top of that, air pollution is a major contributor to [**global warming and climate change**](https://solarimpulse.com/global-warming-solutions). In fact, the abundance of carbon dioxide in the air is one of the causes of the greenhouse effect. Normally, the presence of greenhouse gases should be beneficial for the planet because they absorb the infra-red radiation produced by the surface of the earth.

Human Health- Our continual exposure to air pollutants is responsible for the deterioration of human health.  
  
Air pollution is indeed a significant risk factor for human health conditions, causing allergies, respiratory and cardiovascular diseases as well as lung damage.

• Control of atmospheric pollution:

**production**  
  
The most basic **solution for air pollution** is to move away from fossil fuels, replacing them with alternative energies like solar, wind and geothermal.



**2. Energy conservation and efficiency**   
  
Producing clean energy is crucial. But equally important is to reduce our consumption of energy by adopting responsible habits and using more efficient devices.



**3. Eco-friendly transportation**   
  
Shifting to electric vehicles and [**hydrogen vehicles**](https://solarimpulse.com/hydrogen-mobility-solutions), and promoting shared mobility (i.e., carpooling, and public transports) could reduce air pollution.



**4. Green building**   
  
From planning to demolition, green building aims to create environmentally responsible and resource-efficient structures to reduce their carbon footprint.

How can you, as a citizen of the country, contribute in controlling pollution as a whole?

**Follow these Tips Every Day to Reduce Pollution:**

* Conserve energy - at home, at work, everywhere.
* Look for the ENERGY STAR label when buying home or office equipment.
* Carpool, use public transportation, bike, or walk whenever possible.
* Follow gasoline re-fuelling instructions for efficient vapor recovery, being careful not to spill fuel and always tightening your gas cap securely.
* Consider purchasing portable gasoline containers labelled “spill-proof,” where available.
* Keep car, boat, and other engines properly tuned.
* Be sure your tires are properly inflated.
* Use environmentally safe paints and cleaning products whenever possible.
* Mulch or compost leaves and yard waste.
* Consider using gas logs instead of wood.