

CHAPTER 10

Soil Pollution

Control of soil pollution:

In general, we would need less fertilizer and fewer pesticides if we could all adopt the three reduce, reuse, and recycle. This would give us less solid waste.

- Reducing chemical fertilizer and pesticide use.
- Reusing of materials.
 - E.g., Glass containers, Plastic bags, Paper, Cloth etc.
- Recycling and recovery of materials.

Materials such as paper, some kinds of plastic and glass can and are being recycled. For example, recycling of one tonne of paper can save 17 trees.
- Reforestation

Restoring forest and glass cover to check wastelands, soil erosion and floods. Crop rotation or mixed cropping can improve the fertility of the land.

Bioremediation:

Bioremediation means to use a biological remedy to abate or clean up contamination. This makes it different from remedies where contaminated soil or water is removed for chemical treatment or

decontamination, incineration, or burial in a landfill. Plants have also been used to assist bioremediation processer. This is called phytoremediation. Biological processes have been used for some inorganic materials. Like metals, to lower radioactivity and to remediate organic contaminants. Two exception are mercury and selenium, which can be released as volatile elements directly from plants to atmosphere.

