Chapter 18 Water Pollution

Pollution is a major topic in environmental science. Water pollution is a fundamental concept within this topic. It is essential to know the difference between point-source and nonpoint-source pollution, as well as to be able to cite examples and explain their origin.

It is necessary to know the categories of water pollutants with the noted cause, effect, and remedy of each. The role of the nitrogen cycle with respect to fertilizer run-off is an essential concept. The hydrologic cycle is also involved. Algal bloom that results from cultural eutrophication is a central idea. It is important to understand the processes that lead to hypoxia, creating a dead zone.

Water quality testing is essential; chemical tests can indicate water quality. In addition, it is imperative to make the connections between data and what is causing the data to change. It is also necessary to know how to remediate the problem.

Municipal sewage treatment includes primary, secondary, and tertiary treatment. Finally, major laws and legislation are essential information; we must understand how these laws affect decisions and the decision-making process.