

Discussion Chart for “Water Pollution: What Can We Do About It?”

Character	Canister Contents	Pollution	Type	Alternatives for Prevention
trees	leaves	natural organic	nonpoint	no problem except for reservoirs; clear trees/ brush from shores
1 st home owner	liquid	toxic cleaners	nonpoint	use biodegradable cleansers; if use toxics, bring to special toxic waste sites
2 nd home owner	sludgy coffee	leaking septic tank	nonpoint	maintain septic tank properly
3 rd home owner	sugar	lawn fertilizers	nonpoint	leave clippings on lawn, use organic fertilizers; don't worry about a “perfect” lawn
beach goers	soda tops & popcorn	litter	nonpoint	don't litter; pick up litter, even if it isn't yours
1 st farmer	soil	sediment (erosion)	nonpoint	plant cover crops to hold the soil in the winter; contour or strip plowing
2 nd farmer	sugar	pesticides	nonpoint	<u>integrated pest management (IPM)</u> : monitor fields and spray only the minimum amount needed. <u>Organic farming</u> : organic pesticides, natural predators, crop rotation

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shopping mall lot	pencil shavings	stormwater runoff, heavy metals, oils	nonpoint	detention basins; created wetlands; swales; sweep lots; low sodium salts
electric company	vinegar	acid rain	nonpoint	conserve electricity; smokestack scrubbers; alternative energy sources
chemical plant	tumeric (a spice)	heavy metals, organic chemicals	point	alter industrial processes; improve pretreatment before discharge; consumer choices (don't buy from companies that pollute)
sewage treatment plant	sludgy coffee	organic nutrients toxic chemicals	point	better system design; don't throw toxic materials down the drain
gas station	corn oil	leaking underground storage tank (L.U.S.T.)	nonpoint	better tank design and maintenance; conserve gasoline use