

WHAT IS THE ISSUE?

Industrial growth and water pollution is an issue around the world. Now scientists are becoming aware of natural disasters affecting water sources and risking human health.

SIGNIFICANCE OF ISSUE:

The stability of water catchments is a growing concern with natural disasters affecting the quality of our drinking water.



There are many causes and factors of water pollution, and all are related to environmental and human health. Pollutants commonly include rubbish, chemicals, sewerage, bacteria and parasites. However, the impacts of natural disasters such as bushfires where temperature changes, unwanted nutrients, and sediment wash into waterways is also a health hazard.

Australia has suffered from several severe bushfires over the last two decades and while safety and air pollution are common health concerns, little focus has been on the health of waterways and how that affects the health of humans.

 2-3 KEY USERS:

Marie is a scientist who specialises in water health and has an interest in the effects of climate change.

Sebastian works at a regional council in Victoria that has been affected by several fires, floods, and severe storms in the last 3 years.

 2-3 POINT OF VIEW STATEMENTS:

Marie has witnessed increasing health issues from contaminated drinking water after natural disasters in her area and is concerned that climate change is having a bigger effect on people's health than is spoken about.

Sebastian is sick of buying bottled water and boiling/filtering his tap water because his local water catchment has been contaminated after back-to-back natural disasters.

KEY IMAGES: (2-3 key images with annotation)



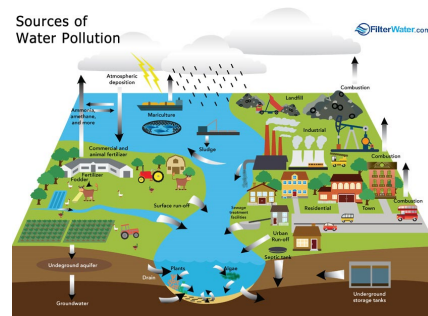
Pollution in the King River, Tasmania.

INDUSTRY SECTORS:

- Government (roads and public infrastructure such as sewerage)
- Manufacturing
- Energy, mining, and fossil fuels
- Waste
- Sewerage
- Health
- Environment
- Agriculture



Water Stress Rankings by Country from the World Resources Institute.



Sources of water pollution.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

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