

Air Pollutant: Lead (Pb)

Anthropogenic sources: lead pipes, petroleum exploration

Effects on environment:

In paint and gasoline, spreads into atmosphere stays there indefinitely in dust form

Effect on humans:

Fetuses and infant affected mostly, cause damage to the brain, nervous system, and digestive, sends lead through blood into the whole body

Economic effect:

Expensive to cleanup about 10000 dollars to report lead paint from walls, expensive to remove lead pipes and replace

Destroys fishing based economies if excess lead is in water

Science behind it

Replaces other metals in your body such as iron with lead. Messes with chemical reactions, causes gene damage and diminishes ability to think or recall info

Primary pollutant

Air Pollutant - Hg

Anthropogenic Sources - Burning Fossil Fuels, especially coal. And incineration of waste

Effects on Environment - contaminates water, which in turn makes methylmercury. Also creates wastewater and gets into fish

Human effects - Mercury itself isn't that harmful, but methylmercury is highly toxic

Econ effects - fish market goes down

Science behind it - methylmercury damages central nervous systems and impairs coordination, touch, taste, and sight

Primary/Secondary Pollutant - Both. Mercury is a Primary, methylmercury is a secondary