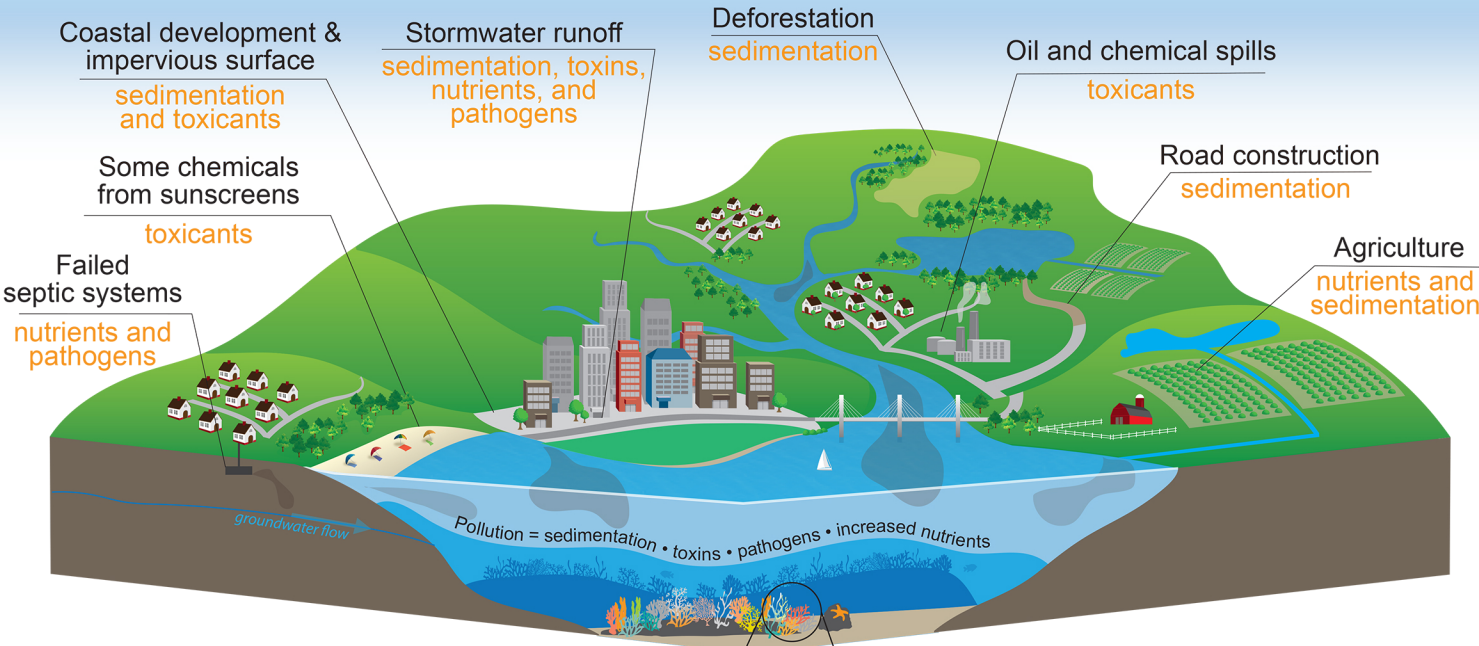




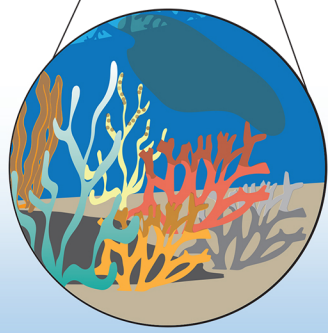
# THREATS TO CORAL REEFS LAND-BASED SOURCES OF POLLUTION



**POLLUTION**

- sedimentation
- toxicants
- pathogens
- increased nutrients

- causes disease and mortality**
- disrupts** ecological functions
- changes dynamics and feeding behaviors**
- prevents** coral growth and reproduction



As human **population & development** expands in coastal areas, the landscape is altered, increasing land-based sources of pollution & **THREATENING CORAL REEF HEALTH.**

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Apply fertilizers and pesticides sparingly.
- Pick up after your pets.
- Wash your car on your lawn.
- Dispose of lawn clippings in a compost pile.
- Harvest rooftop rain water through rain barrels or rain gardens.
- DO NOT dump paint, oil, antifreeze, debris, or other household chemicals into street gutters or storm drains.
- Clean up spilled brake fluid, oil, grease, and antifreeze.
- Maintain proper septic system function with inspections and pumpouts every 3-5 years.
- Seek shade between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., use Ultraviolet Protection Factor (UPF) sunwear, and choose sunscreens with chemicals that don't harm marine life.

For more information, visit [oceanservice.noaa.gov/sunscreen](https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/sunscreen).