

## Common air pollutants: ammonia

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Ammonia is a colourless gas with a pungent odor that is noticeable at concentrations above 50 ppm. Most of the [NH<sub>3</sub> \(Ammonia\)](#) emitted is generated from livestock waste management and fertilizer production.

[NH<sub>3</sub> \(Ammonia\)](#) is poisonous if inhaled in great quantities and is irritating to the eyes, nose, and throat in lesser amounts. It combines in the atmosphere with sulphates and nitrates to form secondary fine [particulate matter \(PM<sub>2.5</sub>\)](#). [PM \(Particulate Matter\)<sub>2.5</sub>](#) is known to have harmful effects on human [health](#) and the [environment](#). [NH<sub>3</sub> \(Ammonia\)](#) can also contribute to the nitrification and eutrophication of aquatic systems.

- [Ammonia: main emission sources](#)

### Related Websites:

[Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment/Air](#)

[Acid Rain](#)

[Clean Air On Line](#)

[CEPA Environmental Registry](#)

[Transboundary Air Issues](#)

[Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution \(UNECE\)](#)

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