

Treatment of water

I- Sources of water pollution

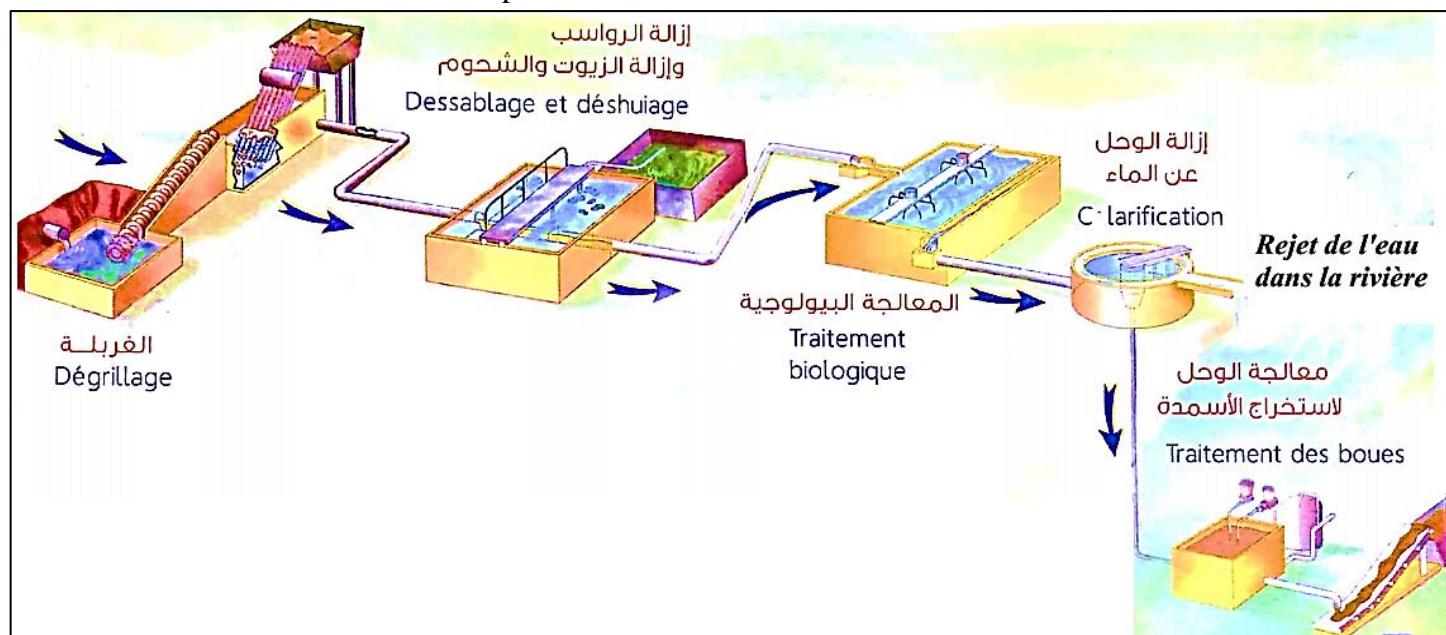
Many human activities in the environment cause water pollution, so there are many sources of water pollution, notably:

- Pollution of industrial wastes.
- Pollution with chemical fertilizers.
- Pollution of used water
- Pollution with chemical pesticides.
- Pollution of algae and tree leaves.
- Pollution with oil and its derivatives.

II- Treatment of used water

Used water is evacuated from houses and factories to a purification station to be treated.

The treatment of used water is presented below:



The treatment of used water is carried out in several steps in a purification station. These steps include the following operations:

- **Dégrillage** : Collects used water and filters it through grilles to remove large solids.
- **Dessablage et déshuillage** : Sand and gravel settle at the bottom of the tanks, while oil and grease float to the surface.
- **Traitement biologique** : This is the most important step during which the water is freed from pollutants.
- **Clarification** : This operation allows the water to be separated by sedimentation, removing sludge from the water.
- **Traitement des boues** : Sludge is dried and then disposed of in landfills, incinerated or used in agriculture.
- **Rejet de l'eau dans la rivière** : Treated water is released into a natural environment, such as a river, sea or ocean. However, it is not drinkable.

III- How to combat water pollution?

We must:

- avoid throwing any product into the sink or toilet;
- choose less polluting washing products and reduce the amount used;
- avoid throwing trash into rivers;
- have the used water of the house pass through an individual wastewater treatment system or through sewers that lead to the purification station.