# Bioremediation of Pesticides

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## Bioremediation

- Mineralization, transformation, alteration
- George Robinson
- Objectives:
  - □ Oxidation
  - Biotransformation
  - □ Reduction

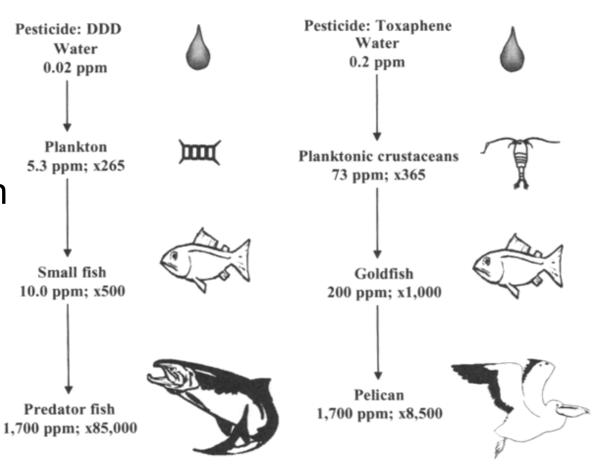


#### Pesticides

- EPA: any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling or mitigating any pest
- Classified by structure

## Pesticide Concerns

- Stimulation of nervous system
- Biomagnification





#### Pesticide Bioremediation Methods

- Intrinsic bioremediation
- Ex-situ and in-situ treatment

<b>Environmental Factor</b>	Optimum Conditions
Available soil moisture	25-85% water holding capacity
Oxygen	>0.2 mg/L DO, >10% air-filled pore space for aerobic degradation
Redox potential	Eh > 50 millivolts
Nutrients	C:N:P = 120:10:1 molar ratio
рН	5.5 to 8.5
Temperature	15 - 45°C

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## **Ex-Situ Bioremediation**

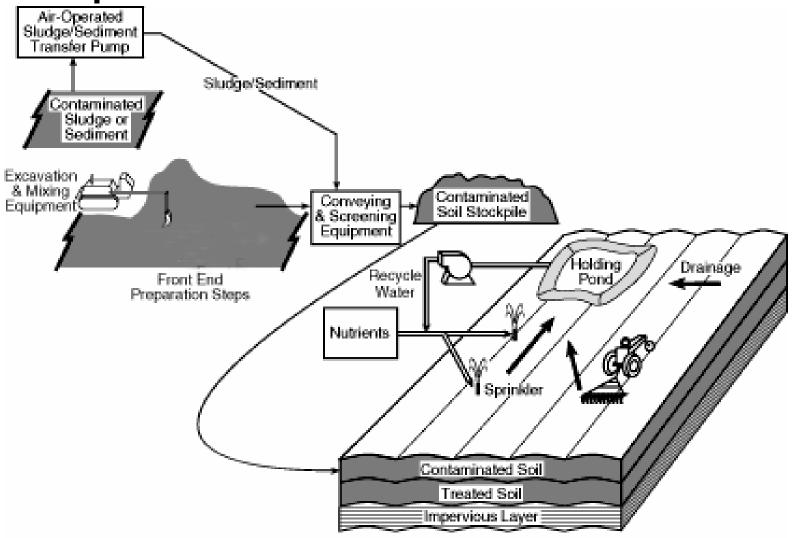
- Pump-and-treat
- Biopile treatment
- Landfarming



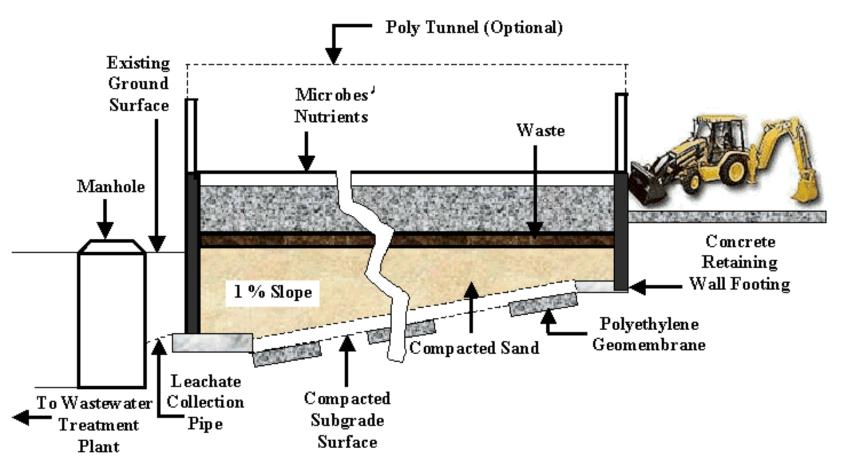
## Pump-and-treat

- Contaminated groundwater
- Treatment via engineered systems
  - □ Activated sludge
  - ☐ Trickling filter
  - □ Rotating Biological Contactors
  - □ Ion Exchange

# Biopile Treatment



# Landfarming Treatment



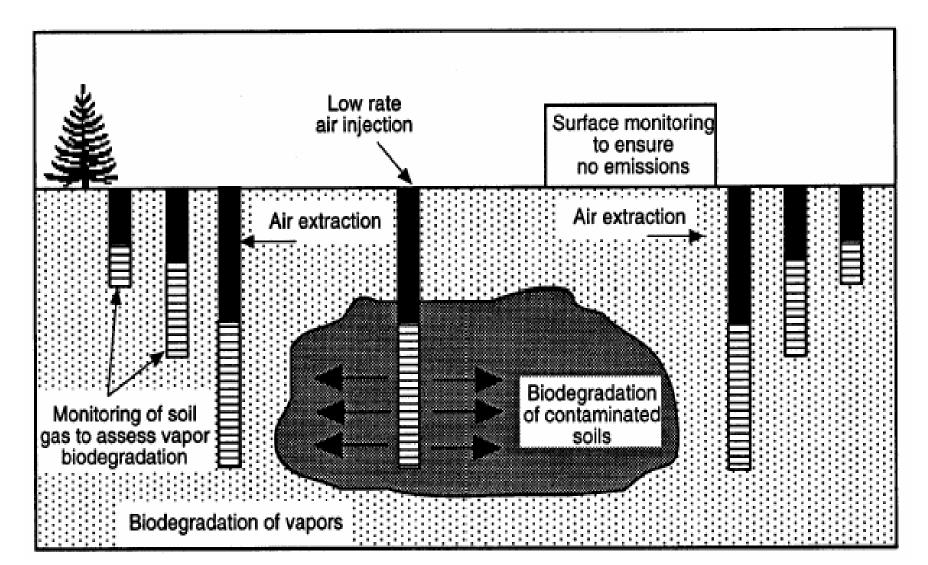
## In-Situ Bioremediation

- Fungi
- Bioventing

# Fungi Treatment

- White rot fungi
- Natural degrader of recalcitrant compounds

# Bioventing





## Ex-situ vs. In-situ Treatment

- Ex-situ
  - ☐ Shorter amount of time
  - □ Easier to control
  - □ Increase in labor costs
  - Large amount of space required



## Ex-situ vs. In-situ Treatment

- In-situ
  - □ Long time frame
  - ☐ Hard to control
  - Intense monitoring

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#### Conclusion

- Pesticide remediation necessary
- Partial degradation may produce toxic compounds
- Further research needed

## Questions?