

What does the term "nutrient cycling" mean?

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Throughout our unit, we have discussed nutrient cycling without even realizing it!

Nutrient Cycling:

-Matter is never used up and it never goes away. It just keeps cycling around and around.

"Matter may be transformed from one type to another, but it cannot be created or destroyed." -Law of Conservation of Matter

Matter cannot be created or destroyed, it can only be transformed.

How does nutrient cycling happen in:

1. The Water Cycle?

Matter cannot be created or destroyed, it can only be transformed.

How does nutrient cycling happen in:

2. The Carbon Cycle?

Carbon

Co₂

Oil/Gas



Graphite



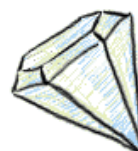
Coal



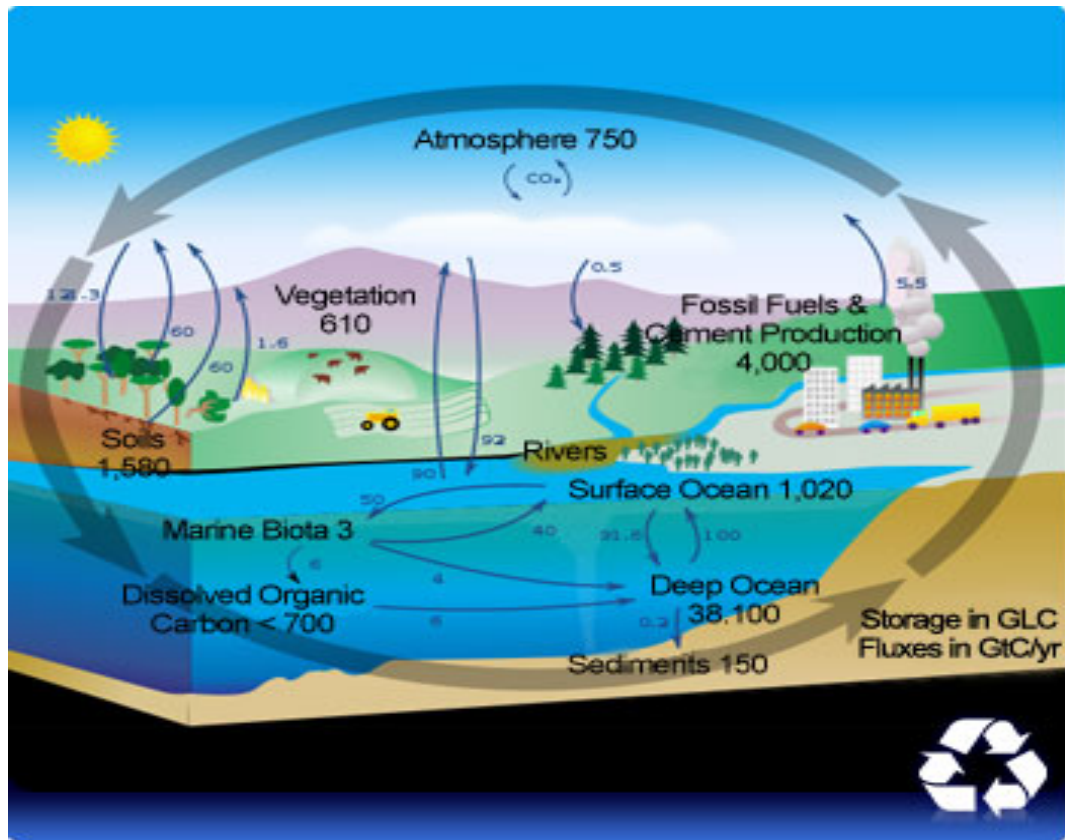
Plastic



Diamonds



The Carbon Cycle



Into the Atmosphere:

- volcanic eruption
- respiration
- forest fires (burning of forests to plant farm fields)
- decomposition of waste
- fossil fuels

Out of the Atmosphere:

- photosynthesis
- composition of shells and skeletons of marine organisms

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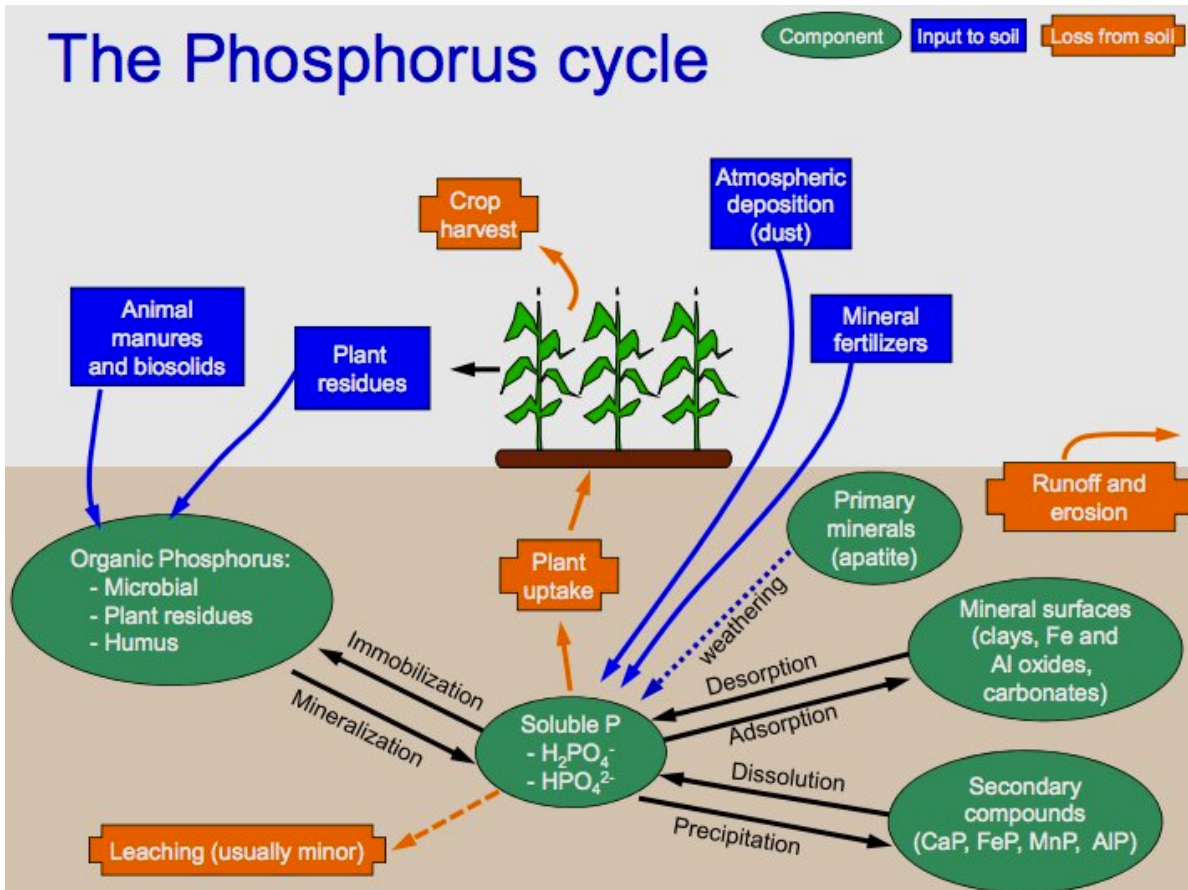
How does nutrient cycling happen in:

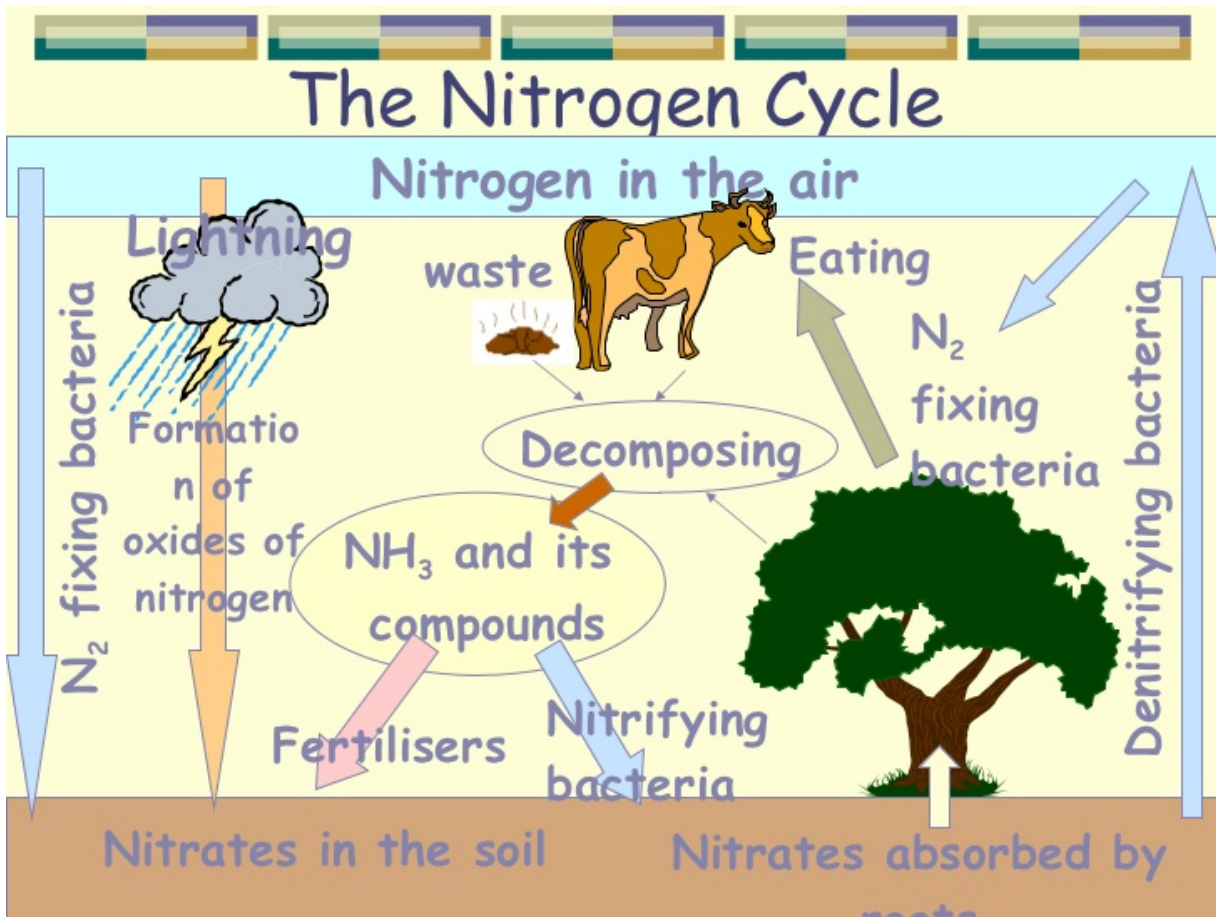
2. What about the cycles of other nutrients?

Phosphorous

Human Impacts:

- We mine phosphorous to use as fertilizer
- We release phosphorous-rich waste water from houses and businesses
- Phosphorous is added to detergents to improve their cleaning power.





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How does nutrient cycling happen in:

3. Food Chains/Webs?

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How does nutrient cycling happen in:

4. Renewable Resources?

(We haven't discussed this one yet, but let's take a guess!)