Acid Precipitation

What is it? Normal precipitation has a pH of 5.7 (H_2O vapor interacts w/ CO_2 which causes it to be more acidic)

↳ Acid Precipitation is Rain or snow w/ a pH of < 5.7

Causes

* $SO_2 + NO_2$ ← man made causes (see smog notes) & natural sources (forest fires, volcanoes, etc)
  - $SO_2 \rightarrow H_2SO_4$
  - $NO_2 \rightarrow HNO_3$

other man made (anthropogenic) causes:
- mines
- construction sites

* These atmospheric conditions get moved around by weather.

Environmental Impacts

- acidification of surface H_2O
- harms plants (esp. trees)
- damage sensative soils & orgs. that live in them.
- Damage sculptures & buildings
- Damage to paints on cars
- Can leave a deposite on buildings

Health Impacts

- gasses are harmful
- acid precipitation itself has little impact

Controlling Acid Precipitation

- Reduce NO_x & SO_x ← scrubbers, cleaner vehicles, electric vehicles