

Hydrology list #9 Fresh Water

1. **groundwater**- water that fills the cracks and spaces in underground soil and rock layers
2. **aquifer**- an underground layer of rock or sediment that holds water (example: the Ogallala Aquifer)
3. **geyser**- a fountain of water and steam that builds up pressure underground and erupts at regular intervals.
4. **permeable**- characteristic of a material that is full of tiny, connected air spaces that water can seep through.
5. **spring**- a place where groundwater flows to the surface
6. **water pollution**- the addition of any substance that has a negative (harmful) effect on water or the living things that depend on the water
7. **reservoir**- a lake that stores water for human use.
8. **tributary**- a stream or smaller river that feeds into a main river
9. **watershed**- the land area that supplies water to a river system
10. **wetland**- a land that is covered with a shallow layer of water during some or all of the year.
11. **water table**- the top of the saturated zone, or depth to the groundwater under Earth's surface.

Bonus Challenge Words

10. **impermeable**- a characteristic of materials, such as clay and granite, through which water does not easily pass
11. **Saturated zone**- a layer of permeable rock or soil in which the cracks and pores are totally filled with water.
12. **unsaturated zone**- a layer of rocks and soil above the water table in which the pores contain air as well as water