

# Environmental Science

## Chapter 11

### 11.1 Water Resources

- Water dissolves nutrients and distributes them to cells, regulates body temperature, supports structures, and removes waste products.
- This water evaporates from moist surfaces, falls as rain or snow, passes through living organisms, and returns to the ocean in a process known as the **hydrologic cycle**.
- Because water and sunlight are unevenly distributed around the globe, water resources are very uneven.
- The distribution of water is often described in terms of interacting compartments in which water resides.
- Of the 2.4% of all water that is fresh, nearly 90% is tied up in glaciers, ice caps, and snowfields.
- Groundwater zones
  - **Zone of aeration** Shallow layer of soil containing both air and water.
  - **Zone of saturation** Lower soil layer with pores filled with water.
  - **Water table** Top of zone of saturation that supplies most wells.
- Geological Layers that Contain Water Are Called **Aquifers**
- The atmosphere contains only 0.001% of the total water supply, but it is the most important mechanism for redistributing water around the world.

### 11.2 How Much Water Do We Use?

- **Water withdrawn** is the total amount of water taken from a water body.
- Domestic Water Use Accounts for Only About 6% of World Water Use

### 11.3 Dealing with Water Scarcity

- The World Health Organization considers an average of (264,000 gallons) per person per year to be a necessary amount of water for modern domestic, industrial, and agricultural uses.
- In the United States, the worst drought--so far--in economic and social terms, was in the 1930s when dry years and poor soil conservation resulted in the "**dust bowl**".
- **Subsidence**, or sinking of the ground surface, follows.
- Another consequence of aquifer depletion is **saltwater intrusion**.
- A **watershed**, or catchment, is all the land drained by a stream or river.
- Planting Native Vegetation Saves Water

### 11.4 Water Pollutants

- Any physical, biological, or chemical change in water quality that adversely affects living organisms or makes water unsuitable for desired uses can be considered **pollution**.
- **Point sources** discharge pollution from specific locations, such as drain pipes, ditches, or sewer outfalls such as factories, power plants, sewage treatment plants, underground coal mines, and oil wells.
- **Nonpoint sources** have no specific location where they discharge into a particular body of water, including runoff from farm fields and feedlots, golf courses, lawns and gardens, construction sites, logging areas, roads, streets, and parking lots.

# Environmental Science Chapter 11 Vocabulary

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**Environmental Science Chapter 11 Vocabulary:**

## **Environmental Science Chapter 11 Vocabulary** Book Review: Unveiling the Power of Words

In a world driven by information and connectivity, the power of words has become more evident than ever. They have the capability to inspire, provoke, and ignite change. Such could be the essence of the book **Environmental Science Chapter 11 Vocabulary**, a literary masterpiece that delves deep into the significance of words and their effect on our lives. Compiled by a renowned author, this captivating work takes readers on a transformative journey, unraveling the secrets and potential behind every word. In this review, we will explore the book's key themes, examine its writing style, and analyze its overall effect on readers.

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