

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- **Water withdrawn** is the total amount of water taken from a water body.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

Richard E. Jackson



Environmental Science Chapter 11 Vocabulary:

Unveiling the Power of Verbal Art: An Emotional Sojourn through **Environmental Science Chapter 11 Vocabulary**

In a world inundated with displays and the cacophony of fast conversation, the profound power and psychological resonance of verbal artistry often diminish in to obscurity, eclipsed by the constant barrage of noise and distractions. Yet, set within the lyrical pages of **Environmental Science Chapter 11 Vocabulary**, a captivating perform of fictional splendor that impulses with raw emotions, lies an memorable journey waiting to be embarked upon. Composed by way of a virtuoso wordsmith, that mesmerizing opus instructions viewers on an emotional odyssey, gently revealing the latent possible and profound influence embedded within the elaborate internet of language. Within the heart-wrenching expanse of the evocative evaluation, we can embark upon an introspective exploration of the book is main subjects, dissect their interesting writing style, and immerse ourselves in the indelible effect it leaves upon the depths of readers souls.

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