

Glossary

Adequate - enough for what is required

Adopted - take as one's own; to use or accept

Aeration - expose to air; to fill with air

Agriculture - production of crops, livestock, and poultry; can include forestry and gardening

Airborne - carried by or through the air

Analyze - examine in detail

Application -in agriculture, the act of spreading on a substance

Aquarium - a tank for keeping or displaying live water animals and plants

Aquatic - growing or living in water; done in or near the water

Aquifer - a sand, gravel, or bedrock formation that carries a usable quantity of water.

Aquifers may be divided into different types:

1. Alluvial and Terrace Aquifers are saturated gravel deposits filling valleys along rivers and streams, the terrace deposits lying higher than the alluvial basin.
2. Bedrock Aquifers are saturated bodies of rock. In Oklahoma these aquifers may be composed of limestone, dolomite, gypsum or sandstone.

Astronaut - one trained to make flights in outer space

Atmosphere - gaseous envelope that surrounds Earth.

Atmospheric moisture - moisture in the atmosphere. The higher the moisture content, the more rain an area will receive.

Availability - an item that can be got or had: on hand or handy

Average - typical amount or rate

Bacteria - tiny living organisms that can be seen only through a microscope. Some bacteria cause disease, others help break down particles.

Bedrock - solid rock underlying soil; the base or bottom

Benefit/s - anything contributing to improvement or advantage; to help or aid



Glossary

Carbon dioxide - heavy, colorless, odorless gas which passes out of the lungs during respiration

Catastrophic - any sudden great disaster

Central - in, near, or of the center; of a controlling source in a system.

Century - a period of 100 years

Channel - bed or deeper part of a river; a body of water joining two larger ones.

Characteristics - distinguishing trait or quality

Chemical/s - all matter on Earth is composed of chemicals

Circulated - move in a circle or circuit and return

Clarity - clear quality: clearness

Clay - firm, pliable earth; used for making bricks

Collage - art form in which bits of objects are pasted on a surface

Complex - consisting of two or more related parts.

Component - part, element or ingredient

Condense - reduce to a more compact form, as in vapor to liquid

Condensation - change to a denser form; as from a gas to a liquid

Cone of depression - area around the outside of a well where water is removed when water is pumped from the well. It quickly refills with water from the available ground water.

Connection - relation or association;

Conserve - keep from being damaged, lost, or wasted; to save

Conservation - wise use of natural resources

Conservationist - person who promotes conservation of natural resources

Considerably - worth considering, important; much or large

Constantly - anything that does not change or vary



Glossary

Consume/r - use up or waste; one who uses goods or services

Contaminants - contaminating substance

Contaminate - make impure, corrupt, pollute or taint

Contamination - impure or polluted

Contour - outline of a figure or land; conforming to or following the shape of something

Contribute - share in or furnish ideas

Convenience - anything that adds to ones comfort or saves work

Cornstarch - starch made from corn (maize) used in cooking

Cubic - having the shape of a cube; a cubic foot is the volume of a cube one foot in length, width, and height

DDT - chemical name for a powerful insecticide

Dense - packed tightly together

Dependable - trustworthy; reliable

Dependence - reliance (on) for support or aid

Deplenish/ed - used entirely

Deplete/ing - use up the resources

Describe - tell or write about

Detergents - soaplike cleansing substance

Diagram - sketch, plan, graph, etc. that explains something

Diameter - straight line passing through the center of a circle and touching two points on the circle

Dilute - make a liquid thinner or weaker by adding water

Discharge - release or dismiss; to remove stored energy from



Glossary

Dispose - act of getting rid of something

Dissolve/d - break up or melt by mixing with a liquid

Distribute - spread over an area

Distribution - give or spread out; to put things in various places

Drought - period of time when the amount of rainfall is less than the amount of water needed

Economic - satisfaction of the material needs of people; supply of goods and services

Ecosystem - community of animals and plants and the environment with which it is interrelated

Effectiveness - producing a desired effect; efficient

Efficiency - producing the desired result with a minimum of effort, expense, or waste

Elevation - height above the surface of the earth or above sea level

Energy - inherent power; capacity for action

Equivalent - equal in quantity, value, force, or meaning

Establish/ed - set up, cause to be or bring about

Estimate/s - form an opinion about or a general calculation for size, cost, etc.

Evapotranspiration - term used to describe the combined process of evaporation of surface water from soil and transpiration from plants.

Evaporate/Evaporation - changing a liquid (water) to a gas (water vapor)

Experiment - test or trial undertaken to discover or demonstrate something

Factory - building in which things are manufactures

Fault - large gap where a rock has split and the two parts move apart from one another

Fecal - excrement; waste from living organisms

Fertilizer - chemical or natural material that supplies nutrients to aid in the growth of plants

Filter/ed - device or to strain out solid particles, impurities, etc. from a solid, liquid or gas



Glossary

Formerly - previous or past

Fracture/s - crack in a rock. Groundwater can travel quickly through rock fractures

Gallon - liquid measure equal to 4 quarts

Gaseous - filled with the fluid form of a substance in which it can expand indefinitely

Geyser/s - spring from which columns of boiling water and steam gush into the air at intervals

Globe - anything spherical or somewhat spherical; the earth or a model of the earth

Groundwater - water supply stored under the surface of the earth that reaches the saturated zone
in the soil.

Hail - precipitation in the form of ice

Hazardous - dangerous; full of risk

H₂O - chemical symbol for water

Herbicide - chemical or substance that kills weeds

Humidity - amount of moisture in the air

Hydrogen - flammable, colorless, odorless, gaseous chemical element; the lightest known element

Hydrologic cycle - never-ending movement of water in oceans to the atmosphere to the land and back to the sea.

Hydrology - study of water as it relates to the Earth and its atmosphere

Hypothetical - based on a hypothesis; assumed or supposed

Icecap - mass of glacial ice spreading slowly from a center

Impermeable - rock and soil layers through which water cannot move

Impervious - incapable of being penetrated, as by moisture

Importance - meaning a great deal; having significance or value

Industry - any branch of production, manufacturing enterprise or any large-scale business activity



Glossary

Ineffective - not producing a desired effect; not efficient; unimpressive

Inferences - conclude by reasoning from something known or assumed

Infiltrate - soak into or through

Infiltration - act of passing gradually through or into something

Ingredient - any of the things that make up a mixture; component

Insecticide/s - chemical or substance that kills insects

Interconnectedness - water cycle and aspects of human interaction of our planet's freshwater resources and how fragile it is.

Iodine - nonmetallic chemical element used in medicine; an antiseptic

Landfill - place where people dispose of garbage and wastes

Landscape - expanse of natural scenery seen in one view

Leach - lose soluble matter through a filtering liquid

Leachate - leached filtering liquid

Livestock - domestic animals raised for use or sale

Lure - anything that tempts or entices

Manufactures - making of goods, especially by machinery and on a large scale

Marsh - tract of low, wet, soft land; swamp

Massive - big, solid; large and imposing

Micro-ecosystem - small or mini habitat for plants and animals

Moisture - water or other liquid causing a slight wetness

Molecules - smallest particle of an element or compound that can exist in a free state and still retain the characteristics of the substance

Natural resources - land, forests, minerals, water, and energy that are available naturally



Glossary

Nitrogen - colorless, odorless, gaseous chemical element forming nearly four fifths of the atmosphere

Nonpoint source pollution - pollutants from a nonspecific area

Nutrients - nourishing; anything nutritious

Obligation - binding contract, promise, responsibility; being indebted for a favor

Observation - noting and recording of facts; something noticed

Observe - pay special attention to; to examine scientifically

Obvious - easy to see or understand; evident

Organisms - any living thing

Ounce - unit of weight or a fluid ounce = 1/16 of a pint or 1/16 of a pound

Overwithdrawal - taking of too much from an account or area

Oxygen - colorless, odorless, gaseous chemical element; essential to life processes and to combustion

Particle - tiny fragment or trace

Percolate/s - filter or ooze through a porous material

Permeable - materials through which water can move

Permeability - amount of water that can move through a rock. Rock that water can move through are said to be permeable.

Pesticide - chemical or substance that kills insects or weeds

Phase - any stage in a services or cycle of changes

Phenomenon - any observable fact or event that can be scientifically described

Phytoplankton - plankton consisting of plants, as algae

Pipette - slender pipe or tube into which small amounts of liquids are taken up by suction as for measuring or transferring

Planetary - any heavenly body that revolves around the sun



Glossary

Plankton - the usually microscopic animal and plant life found floating or drifting in large bodies of water used as food for fish.

Point source pollution - pollutants that come from a pipe or outlet that can be identified.

Polar - of or near the North or South Pole

Pollutants - any substance added to an environment which is unclean or impure

Pollution - The presence of contaminating materials in the air, soil, or water above natural levels making the resource undesirable or not usable

Pollute/d - make unclean or impure

Pollution plume - where pollutants leach into the groundwater and move or fan out as they flow with the groundwater.

Porosity - amount of water a rock or other object can hold. Rocks with large pores are called "porous."

Porous - materials that contain enough open spaces for water to move through

Potable - drinkable

Precious - beloved; dear; of great price or value

Precipitation - rain, hail, sleet, or snow that falls to Earth

Predict - state what one believes will happen; foretell (a future event or events)

Prevention - act of stopping something from happening

Process - method of doing something, with all the steps involved

Quality - how good or how bad something is

Quantity - how much or how many

Rain gage - container marked with a scale to determine the amount of precipitation received in a specific area

Recharge - load or fill; add an electrical charge

Recommendation/s - advice or counsel; to suggest acceptable alternatives



Glossary

Recycle - use again and again, as the same water

Refinery - plant for purifying materials, as oil, sugar, etc.

Regulation - rule or law regulating conduct

Requirement - a need for the successful completion of a project, goal, or outcome

Resource - something that lies ready for use or can be drawn upon for aid; wealth; assets

Respiration - act or process of breathing

Righteous - acting in a just, upright manner; virtuous; morally right

Runoff - water flowing across the Earth's surface, rather than seeping into the ground

Saline - containing salt; salty

Sand - loose, gritty grains of disintegrated rock

Saturate/d - ground that has as much water as it can hold

Saturated Zone - zone at the bottom of the water table where the gravel is completely covered with water. All of the spaces between the soil or gravel chunks are full of water.

Sedimentary rocks - rocks made from compressed sediment

Sedimentation - settling of matter in the bottom of a liquid

Septic system (tank) - tank in which sewage is broken down by bacteria

Sewage - waste matter that is mixed with liquid and passes through sewers

Short sighted - lacking in foresight; not examining the whole picture or process

Silt - fine-grained, sandy sediment carried or deposited by water

Simulate/d - look or act like

Sizable - quite large or bulky

Softener - make or become soft or softer

Soluble - can be dissolved



Glossary

Solvent - substance that can dissolve another substance

Stewards - person or persons put in charge of protecting, guarding, or taking care of something

Substance - physical matter of which a thing consists

Substantial - ample; large; important

Subsurface water - water moisture that is in soil, groundwater within a depth of $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, and deep-lying groundwater.

Sufficiently - as much as is needed; enough; adequate

Surface water - water that remains at the earth's surface, in oceans, rivers and other bodies of water

Surrounding - to encircle on all or nearly all sides

Survive - live; to remain alive or in existence

Swamp - piece of wet, spongy land; bog; marsh

System - method or plan; a set or arrangement of things so related as to form a whole (a solar system - school system)

Technological - science of the practical or industrial arts

Temperature - degree of hotness or coldness of an object

Terrarium - enclosure, as of glass or clear plastic, in which small plants are grown or small land animals are kept

Textile - woven or knitted fabric; cloth

Topographic - topographic map has brown contour lines that represent the elevation of the land surface.

Toxic - poisonous

Transparent - transmitting light rays so that objects on the other side may be seen

Transpiration - process by which plants give off water vapor to the atmosphere

Transpire/d - give off vapor/moisture as through pores

Transport - carry from one place to another



Glossary

Tributaries - smaller waterways (river, streams) flowing into a larger one

Unaccountable - not responsible; strange; cannot be explained

Undetected - not discovered; hidden; not clear

Unsaturated zone - upper layer of the water table where the spaces between the chunks of soil or gravel are full of air, not water. Water passes through but does not stay.

Vapor - gaseous form of water

Vegetation - plant life

Vertebrate - having a backbone or spinal column

Vital - essential to life; very important

Waste water - water used to carry away leftover or useless material

Water - natural resource that comes in three forms: liquid, gas, and solid

Water conservation - using water so it is not wasted, and so it does not become polluted

Water cycle - continuous movement of water through evaporation, transpiration, condensation and precipitation

Water pollution - any reduction of water quality from the natural state, or any change in water that makes it unsuitable for a particular use such as drinking or swimming

Water table - top surface of the saturated zone of the soil

Watershed - all the land that drains to a point on the landscape

Water-soluble - substance which can be dissolved in water

Well - hole dug through the unsaturated zone into the saturated zone for collection of water.

Well water - water made available by drawing it from groundwater

