

Water



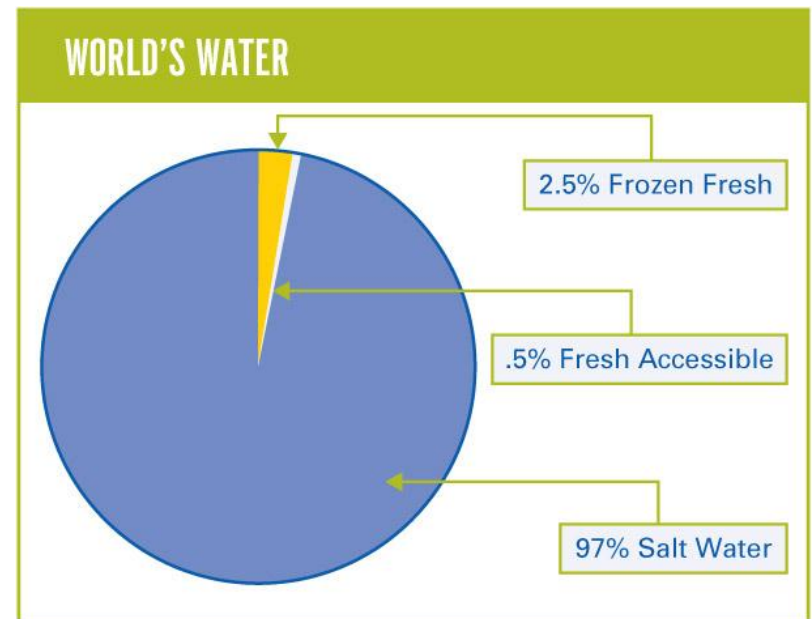
Water Uses

- Water is essential for humans to live.
- Besides drinking water we use it for bathing, cooking, cleaning, farming, industry, mining, removing waste, and producing electricity.



Usable Water

- 97% of the water on Earth is salt water in the oceans
- 2.5% is frozen fresh water in ice caps and glaciers
- .5% is fresh water available in rivers, lakes, and ground water.



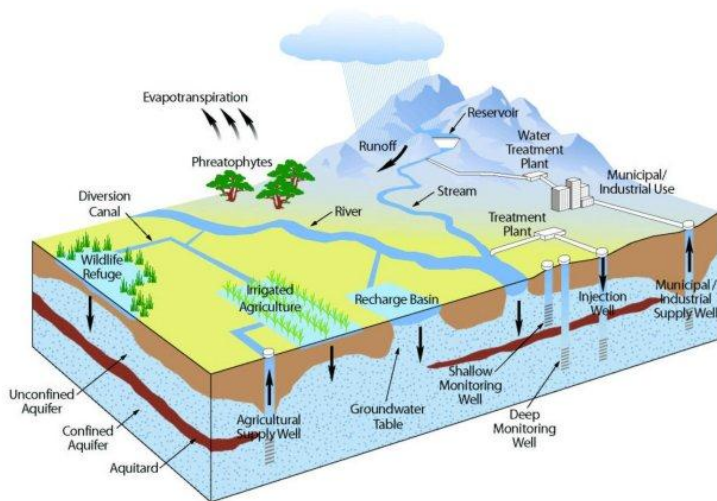
Groundwater

- water that soaks into the ground and collects between bits of rock and soil.
- the water is filtered as it passes through rock and soil.
- the water is pumped to the surface using a well.



Surface Water

- water collecting on the ground in the form of streams, rivers, or lakes.



Water Pollution

- Occurs when harmful debris, chemicals, or biological materials are added to water and lower its quality.
- Examples include oil spills, fertilizer runoff from farms, industrial waste



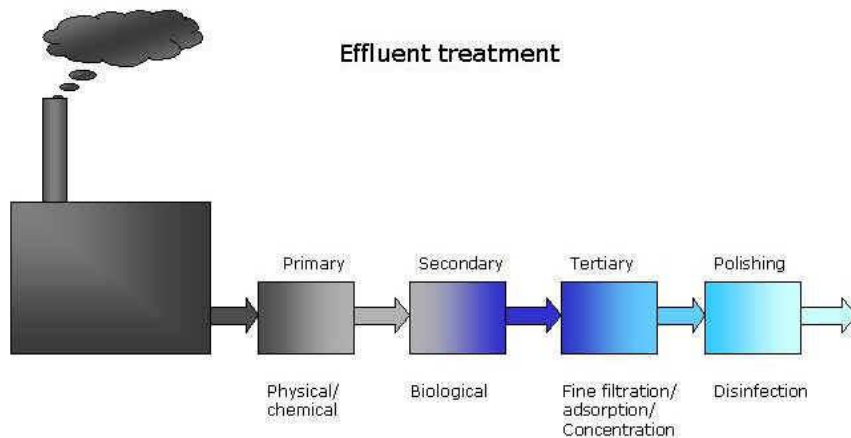
Effects of Water pollution

- Fish and other aquatic animals die and disrupts the food chain.
- Can cause diseases in humans such as hepatitis.
- Can make water unfit for humans to drink.



Cleaning Up Water

- Many governments pass laws to protect water – such as the Clean Water Act in the U.S.
- Water can sometimes be cleaned through water purification. Dirty water is run through a series of filter and chemical treatments to remove pollution.



Dams

- are used to block the flow of rivers and waterways.
- Used for irrigation, generate electricity, deepen waterways for shipping, control flooding, and the collection of drinking water.



How Dams Work

- Dams block a river's channel causing water to accumulate upstream and creating an artificial lake or reservoir.
- Water can be released through gates in the river or through water pipes.



Problems with Dams

- Can disrupt the lifecycle of fish who depend on swimming up and downstream, like salmon.
- Water released back into a riverbed is often colder than normal, which can affect animals.
- Can block the flow of nutrients down a river.

