

Chapter 11 Section 1 Notes

Water Resources – Only 3% of Earth's water is fresh water the remaining 97% of Earth's water is salt water

Freshwater is a limited resource because:

- most of Earth's water is salt water
- most of Earth's fresh water is not liquid water usable by humans

Surface Water – made up of wetlands, rivers, lakes, and streams

River Systems – flowing network of surface water

Watersheds – area of land that drains into a river ex) Mississippi River (the largest watershed in the US)

Groundwater – water stored under Earth's surface; surface water that has percolated through soil

Aquifers – underground formation containing groundwater

Porosity and Permeability

porosity - % of total volume of a rock or sediment that has open spaces

permeability – a rock's ability to allow the flow of water through it

The Recharge Zone – area of Earth's surface where water percolates down into the aquifer; the area above an aquifer

Surface water becomes groundwater when it percolates into the recharge zone.

Wells – holes dug into the ground to obtain fresh water