



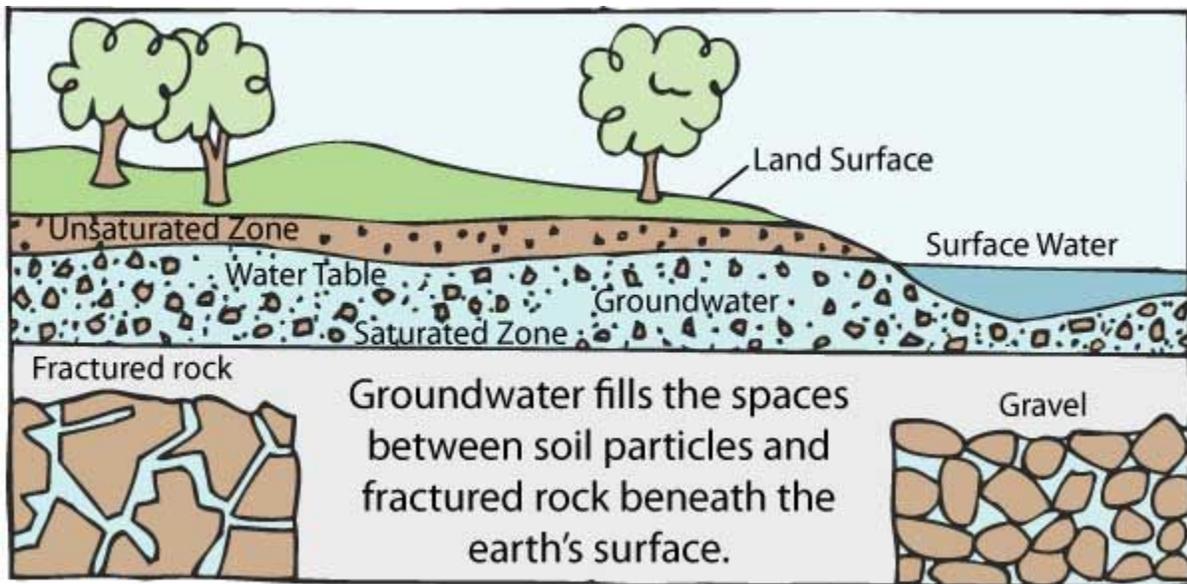
PROTECT YOUR GROUNDWATER DAY

September 1, 2020

WHAT IS GROUNDWATER?

Groundwater is the water found underground in the cracks and spaces in soil, sand and rock. It is stored in and moves slowly through geologic formations of soil, sand and rocks called aquifers.

Groundwater is used for drinking water by more than 50 percent of the people in the United States, including almost everyone who lives in rural areas. The largest use for groundwater is to irrigate crops.



HOW MUCH DO WE DEPEND ON GROUNDWATER?

- Groundwater supplies drinking water for 51% of the total U.S. population and 99% of the rural population.
- Groundwater helps grow our food. 64% of groundwater is used for irrigation to grow crops.
- Groundwater is an important component in many industrial processes.
- Groundwater is a source of recharge for lakes, rivers, and wetlands.