

Review Questions Topic 15: Groundwater

Define: percolation

What is the difference between porosity and permeability?

Define: saturated zone versus unsaturated zone

What is the boundary between the saturated and unsaturated zone called?

What are the scientific names for the saturated and unsaturated zone?

What are the primary three “media” in which groundwater is found (uh, what is the material made up of, starting with “soil”, _____, and _____).

Other than rarely caves, what else does groundwater use (other than pore spaces) to move through?

What is a recharge area and what is a discharge area?

What percentage of typical river flow is fed by groundwater seeping into it from the sides and below?

Describe the basic parts of a standard water well

What is the difference between a confined and unconfined aquifer?

What is an aquiclude?

What is one pro to an unconfined aquifer? What is a major con of an unconfined aquifer?

What is an artesian well?

What is a perched water table and how have these spelled “doom” to early water wells?

How do Springs form?

Excessive removal of groundwater can result in what feature immediately around the well?

Explain the concept of hydro-compaction and how it drives subsidence

Explain how the nature of the farmland and its use in the San Joaquin River Delta has led to massive subsidence in the area

Find out whether your home is on municipal water or a water well 😊