



# Water in Your Valley Vocabulary List



- **Aqueduct:** A man-made watercourse constructed to convey water from one location to another. An aqueduct is any system of pipes, ditches, canals, tunnels, and other structures used for this purpose.
- **Aquifer:** A geological formation or structure that stores and/or transmits water, such as to wells and springs. Use of the term is usually restricted to those water-bearing formations capable of yielding water in sufficient quantity to constitute a usable supply for people's uses.
- **Condensation:** The conversion of a gas to liquid, which is the opposite process of evaporation.
- **Conservation:** The act of conserving; such as saving Natural Resources.
- **Delta:** A delta is an area of land in which a river divides into smaller rivers and empties into a larger body of water. Ex. The Sacramento Delta.
- **Drought:** A period of below-average precipitation in a given region, resulting in prolonged shortages in its water supply.
- **Evaporation:** This is the process by which water changes from a liquid to a gas or vapor.
- **Gas:** Water converted into a gaseous or vapor state.
- **Groundwater:** This 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.
- **Infiltration:** The process by which water on the ground surface enters the soil. All flow of water from the land surface in the subsurface.
- **Liquid:** Fluid that has no fixed space. Ex. Water at room temperature
- **Natural Resource:** A substance or material such as water or trees that is naturally found on Earth and is necessary or useful to humans.
- **Precipitation:** Water released from clouds in the form of rain, sleet, snow, or hail.
- **Recharge:** Water added to an aquifer. For instance, rainfall seeps into the ground.
- **Runoff:** Something that drains or flows off, as rain or snowmelt that flows off from the land into streams.
- **Solid:** Firm, hard, or compact in the state.
- **Surface Water:** Water that is above ground such as in a river, lake, wetland, or ocean.