



Santa Ana Watershed Vocabulary



This vocabulary list is targeted for 2nd-3rd grade students.

Absorb: To soak something up.

Coastal: The land along or near a sea or ocean.

Compost: A mixture of decaying organic matter used to fertilize the soil, usually made by gathering plant material, such as leaves, grass clippings, and vegetable peels, into a pile or bin for decomposition.

Conserve: To save, preserve or protect.

Delta: an area formed from the deposition of sediments at the mouth of a river.

Environment: The surroundings or conditions in which a person, animal, or plant lives or operates.

Estuary: A wetland body of water usually found where rivers meet the sea or freshwater meets saltwater.

Habitat: The natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or another organism.

Hazardous waste: Waste that is dangerous or potentially harmful to health or the environment.

Marsh: A wetland area consisting of mostly grass in shallow water.

Migrate: To move from one region or habitat to another, regularly according to the seasons.

Natural Resource: Materials or substances such as a forest, a mineral deposit, or water, that is formed in nature and is necessary or useful to humans

Pollution: The introduction of contaminants into the natural environment. The contamination of air, water, or soil by substances that is harmful to living organisms.

Swamp: A tract of wet, spongy land, often having a growth of certain types of trees and other vegetation, but unfit for cultivation.

Wetland: An area of land that is saturated with water, either seasonally or permanently.

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