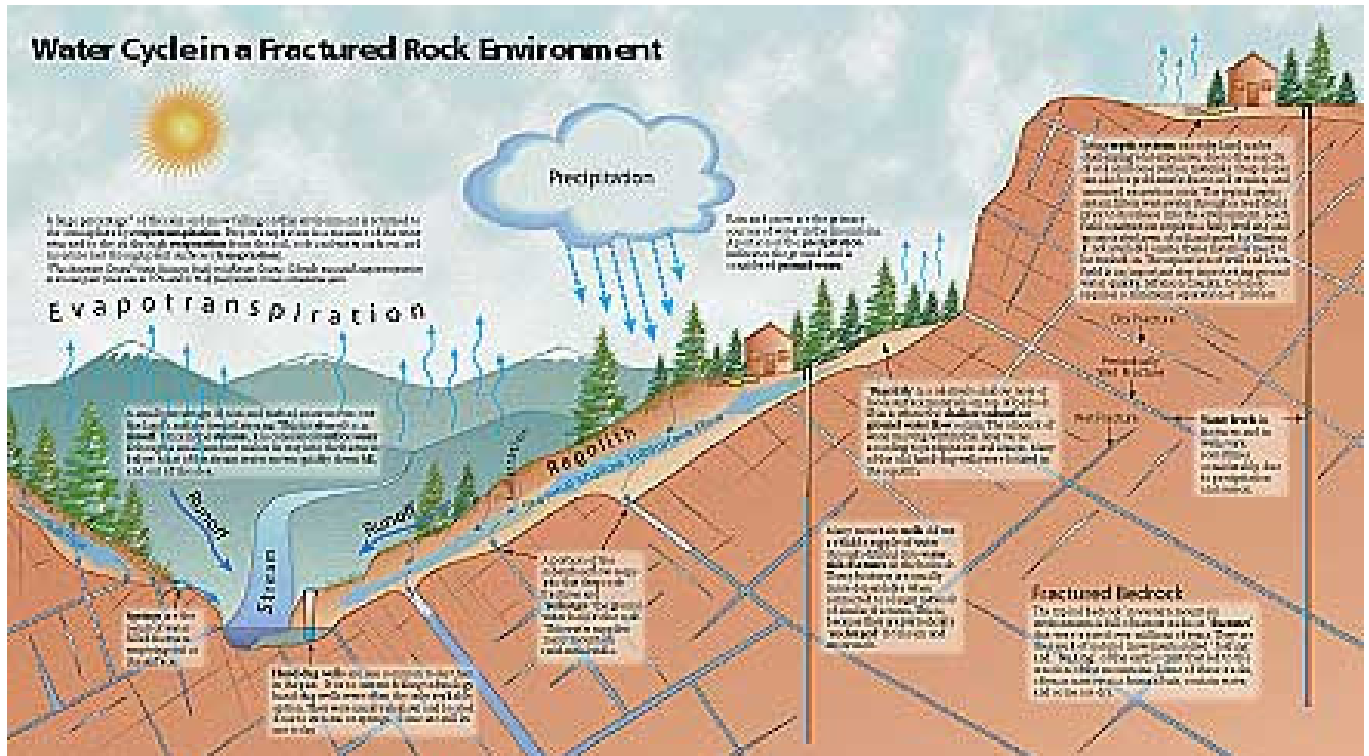


WATER - our MOUNTAIN GOLD

Information from the
Central Sierra Watershed Committee

Fractured Rock and Hydrologic Cycle Diagrams

A view of your watershed



Source: http://www.co.jefferson.co.us/ext/dpt/public_works/planning/water-ed/water-smarts.htm

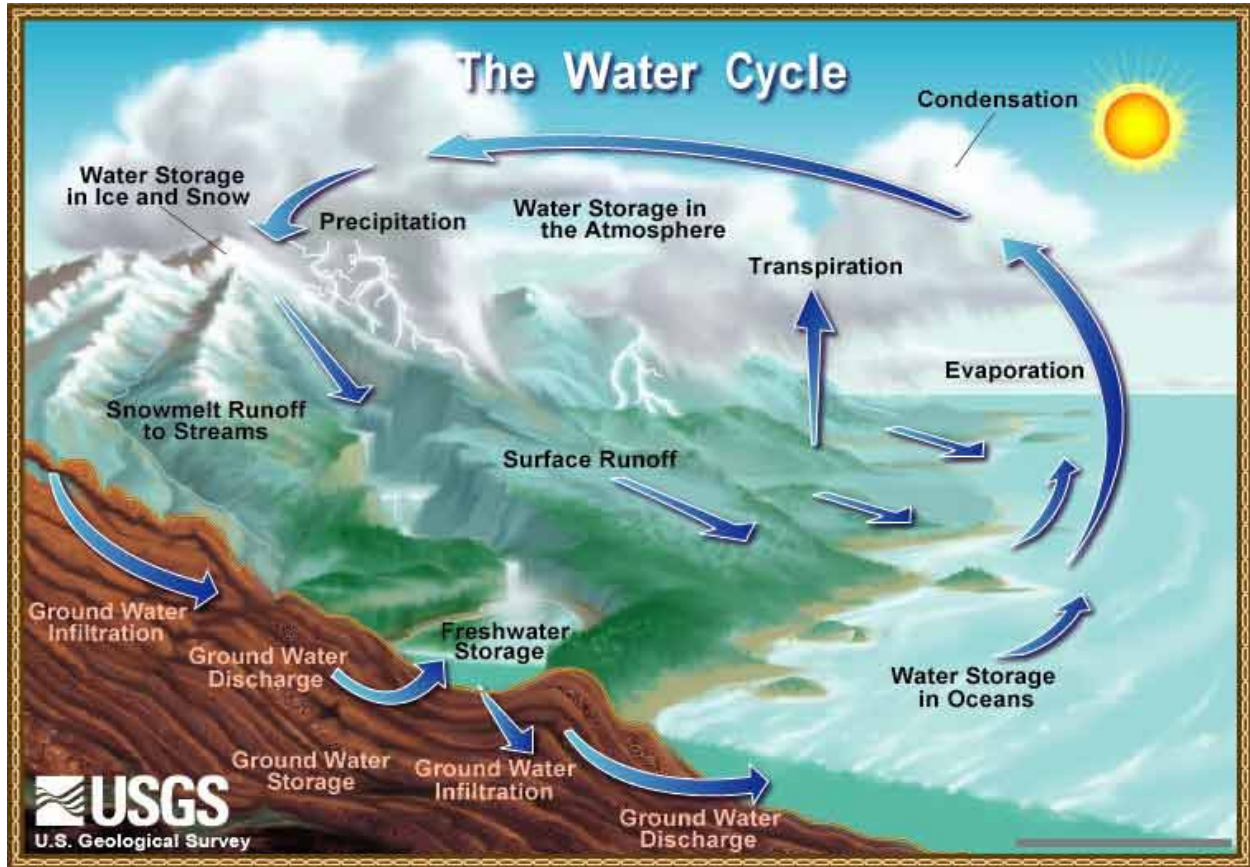
What is a Watershed?

A watershed is the area of land where all of the water that is under it or drains off of it goes into the same place. John Wesley Powell, scientist geographer, put it best when he said that a watershed is:

"...that area of land, a bounded hydrologic system, within which all living things are inextricably linked by their common water course and where, as humans settled, simple logic demanded that they become part of a community."

We all live in a **watershed** - the area that drains to a common waterway, such as a stream, lake, estuary, wetland, or ultimately the ocean -- and our individual actions can directly affect it. Watersheds come in all shapes and sizes. Watersheds cross county, state, and national boundaries. No matter where you are, you're in a watershed!

The Water Cycle



Source: <http://nd.water.usgs.gov/ukraine/english/pictures/watercycle.html>

The CSWC meets on the last Wednesday of every month at the Sierra Ambulance Office, 40755 Winding Way, Oakhurst, at 9 AM, and is open to the public. For information, please email leavesofgrass@netptc.net.

The mission of the Central Sierra Watershed Committee is to promote the quality, quantity, and aesthetic values of our water resources through the conservation and restoration of our watersheds.

CSWC members include: Interested citizens, ranchers, homeowners; local Native American tribes; North Fork Community Development Council; Chowchilla-Redtop and Coarsegold Resource Conservation Districts; Chowchilla City Council; Upper Merced River Watershed Council; California Water Institute; Sierra Foothill Conservancy; Madera Irrigation District; Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation & Development Council; US Army Corps of Engineers; Regional Water Quality Control Board; Madera County Environmental Health & Engineering; CA Department of Water Resources; Madera County Board of Supervisors; Madera Agriculture Commissioner; San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District; Natural Resource Conservation Service; and the United States Forest Service.

Note: The contents of this article do not necessarily reflect the views of the State.