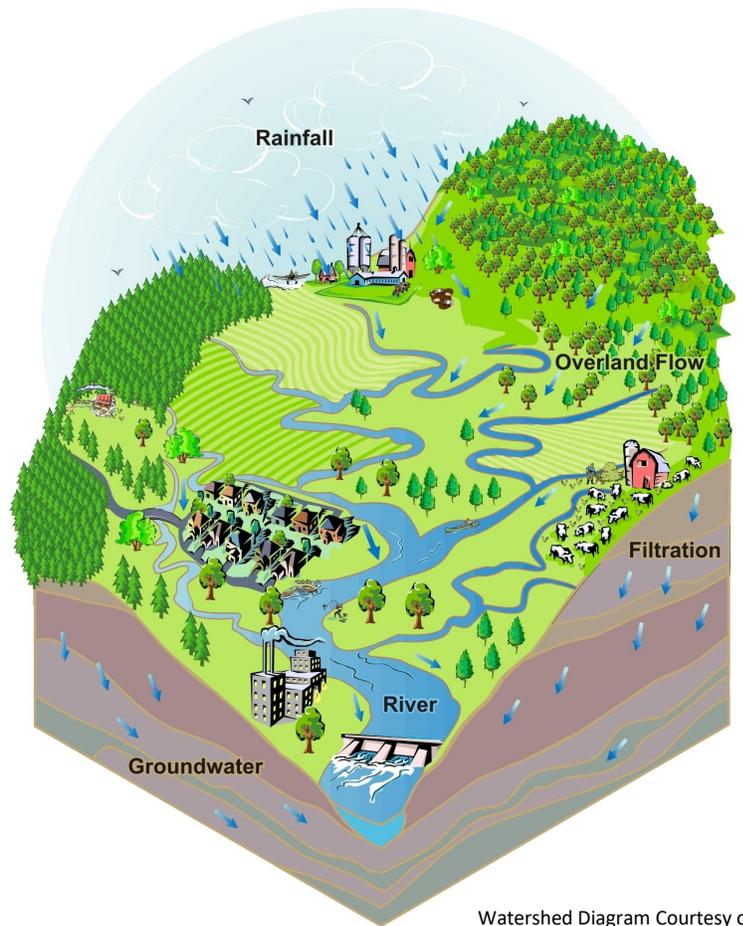


## Explore Our Watershed

- Pass out copies of the attached Santa Ana Watershed map. Ask the students to draw and think about the following:
  - Which way does water flow?
  - Trace the boundaries of the watershed.
  - Where are the rivers and streams the largest? The smallest? Why?
  - Where is water stored in the watershed (stored as snow in mountains, in reservoirs, and in groundwater and soil)? When rainfalls or snow melts, what is the fate of the water?
  - Can students locate their school 's approximate location on the map? Print out an aerial image of your school and local community. Next, have them circle areas that may impact watershed health. What areas improve watershed health? Where are there habitats for wildlife? Where are there areas to capture rain to infiltrate into the ground rather than create storm water on the streets? Where are there canals or water treatment plants to help deliver and treat our water? Discuss why storm water moving directly from a street to a creek or river might not be good for the health of that waterway.
  - Start a dialogue about what consequences certain environmentally harmful activities performed by populations of any given area in a watershed will affect communities in a different part of the watershed.. How can we improve watershed health?
- Take a Watershed Walk tour of your local's schools local neighborhood. Print out copies of maps for students to record observations during the walk. Where do they see water used, stored, or transported? What elements of human made water infrastructure do they see (storm drains, pipes, fire hydrants, percolation basins, channels)? What natural water features do they see (streams, rivers, ponds)? Encourage students to predict where their water comes from.
- What watershed do we live in? Watch The Story of the Santa Ana Watershed video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4NxSBt7M4sA>
- Look at images and maps of the watershed students live in. USGS provides great examples, <http://nationalmap.gov/ustopo>.
- Look at a picture of our region that illustrates both the mountains and valleys of the Santa Ana Watershed. Where does water flow during a storm? Create a cartoon or tell a story about the journey of a water drop that lands in the mountains.



Watershed Diagram Courtesy of  
Arkansas Watershed Advisory  
Groups, [prairierivers.org](http://prairierivers.org)

# Santa Ana Watershed Map

