

1. ecosystem

1. plants and animals that interact with each other and their environment to survive

2. ecology

2. study of ecosystems

3. photosynthesis

3. plants use sunlight to create energy and produce their own food

4. producers

4. plants make food for themselves and other organisms

5. consumers

5. eat plants and other consumers

6. food chain

6. path of energy and nutrients through a community

7. pollution

7. addition of harmful substances to the environment

8. point source pollution

8. comes from specific source, such as pipes, smoke stacks, etc.

9. nonpoint source pollution

9. comes from many different sources, such as road salt, manure in fields, pet wastes, etc.

10. watershed

10. all of the land area which drains into a particular body of water

11. water resources

11. ponds, lakes, oceans, streams, wetlands, etc.

12. stormwater runoff

12. rain water washes over land, picking up nonpoint source pollution and carries it into streams, rivers, and lakes

13. hydrologic cycle

13. water cycle...process by which water in environment is constantly recycled and purified...evaporation, condensation, transpiration, precipitation

14. macroinvertebrate

14. organism without a backbone and can be seen without microscope

15. riffle

15. shallow part of stream that flows more rapidly over rocks or large stones

16. riparian buffer

16. plants along sides of stream or other body of water...they help keep soil and pollution from washing into the water

17. flood plain

17. strips of land next to a stream or other body of water where extra water goes during heavy rain storms

18. erosion

18. soil is taken away from the surface of the ground by glaciers, water, or wind

19. sediment

19. surface of ground; it is pollutant when it makes its way into a body of water

20. turbidity

20. measure of suspended sediment and algae in rivers, streams, and lakes. A cloudy or muddy stream is turbid.