

1. **altitude:** the vertical elevation of an object above a surface (such as sea level or land)
2. **aquifer:** a water-bearing layer of rock, sand, or gravel capable of absorbing water
3. **basin:** the land drained by a river and its branches
4. **bioreserve:** a protected area reserved for the conservation of endangered species of flora and fauna
5. **bioswale:** a long, channeled depression or trench that receives rainwater runoff (as from a parking lot) and has vegetation (such as grasses, flowering herbs, and shrubs) and organic matter (such as mulch) to slow water infiltration and filter out pollutants
6. **climate:** the average weather conditions of a particular place or region over a period of years
7. **complex machines:** a device consisting of two or more simple machines, like a screw, lever, or wedge working together
8. **conductor:** a substance or body that can allow electricity, heat, or sound to pass through it
9. **confluence:** a flowing together or meeting place especially of streams
10. **delta:** a low area of debris deposits where a river divides before entering a larger body of water
11. **desalination:** when salt and other minerals are removed from soil or water
12. **electromagnetic induction:** the use of the movement of magnets around a coil of wire to create an electrical current through the wire
13. **elevation:** the height to which something is raised above sea level
14. **endemic:** originating or growing or found especially and often only in a certain locality or region
15. **Fall Line:** a geological boundary, about twenty miles wide, running northeast across Georgia from Columbus to Augusta. It is a gently sloping region that rapidly loses elevation from the north to the south, thereby creating a series of waterfalls
16. **flood line:** a line representing the maximum level likely to be reached by floodwaters on average once in every 100 years
17. **flood-prone:** any land area that is likely to be inundated by water from any source
18. **Flood Warning:** an alert issued to the public when the hazardous weather event is imminent or already in progress
19. **Flood Watch:** an announcement made by professionals when conditions are favorable for a specific dangerous weather event to occur
20. **headwater:** the source of a stream
21. **hydroelectricity:** electricity produced by water power
22. **hydropower:** a form of energy that harnesses the power of water in motion (such as water flowing over a waterfall) to generate electricity
23. **indicator species:** an organism whose presence, absence, or abundance reflects a specific environmental condition
24. **inundation:** to cover with a flood
25. **keystone species:** a species of plant or animal that produces a major impact on its ecosystem and is considered essential to maintaining excellent ecosystem function or structure
26. **kinetic energy:** energy associated with motion
27. **law of conservation of matter:** a fundamental principle that matter cannot be created or destroyed
28. **mechanical energy:** the energy that is possessed by an object due to its motion or due to its position
29. **natural resource:** something (such as a mineral, waterpower source, forest, or kind of animal) that is found in nature and is valuable to humans (as in providing a source of energy, recreation, or scenic beauty)

- 30. permeability:** a term referring to a material's pores or openings that would permit liquids or gases to pass through
- 31. recharge:** the process by which water is added to groundwater aquifers
- 32. reservoir:** a place where something is kept in store: such as an artificial lake where water is collected and kept in quantity for use
- 33. rotor:** a part that revolves in a stationary part
- 34. river basin:** the area of land from which all surface run-off flows through a sequence of streams, rivers, and possibly lakes into the sea at a single river mouth, estuary, or delta
- 35. saturated:** being a mixture that is unable to absorb or dissolve any more of a substance at a given temperature and pressure
- 36. scavenger:** an organism (such as a vulture or hyena) that usually feeds on dead or decaying matter
- 37. sediment:** the matter that settles to the bottom of a liquid
- 38. seep:** to flow or pass slowly through fine pores or small openings
- 39. spring:** a source of water coming up from the ground
- 40. storm surge:** the abnormal rise in seawater level during a storm, measured as the height of the water above the normal predicted tide
- 41. thermal energy:** energy in the form of heat
- 42. tributary:** a stream feeding a larger stream or a lake
- 43. unsaturated:** capable of absorbing or dissolving more of something
- 44. velocity:** the rate of change of position along a straight line with respect to time
- 45. voltage:** electrical potential difference measured in volts
- 46. watershed:** a dividing ridge (such as a mountain range) separating one drainage area from others
- 47. wetland:** land or areas (such as marshes or swamps) having much soil moisture