

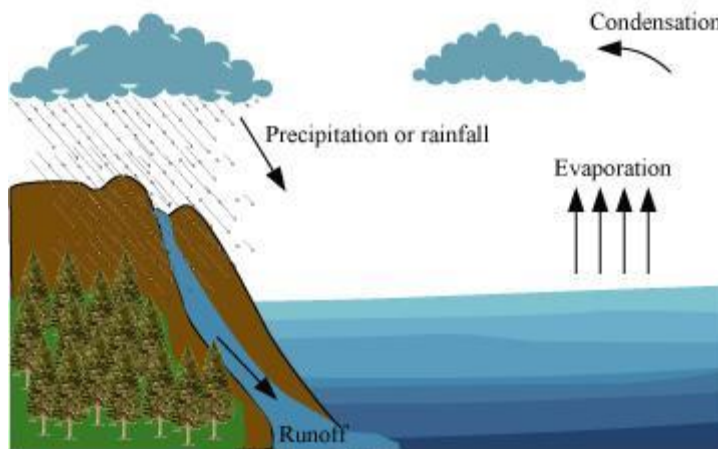
Water

- Water is essential for life.
- About 71% of the earth's surface is covered with water. It is present as ground water, in seas, oceans, rivers, lakes, ice caps, and in atmosphere.
- Wells, rivers, ground water reservoirs or lakes are sources of fresh water.
- Ocean and sea water is not potable because they contain large amount of dissolved salts.
- Water is a necessity for every form of life. It is used for domestic activities, irrigation, industrial purposes, etc.
- 22nd March is celebrated as World Water day.

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- - **Wells, rivers, or lakes** are sources of fresh water.
 - **Ocean and sea water** is not potable because they dissolve large amount of salt in them.
 - **Water Cycle:** The circulation of water between water bodies, lands and clouds is known as water cycle.
 - The change of water into its vapour is known as **evaporation**.
 - The change of vapour back into water is known as **condensation**.
 - Fall of water from clouds is known as **precipitation or rainfall**.
 - **Runoff** is the process by which rain water returns back to the water bodies.
 - Clouds are formed during the process of **condensation**.
 - Rain, snow, hail, etc. replenish rivers, lakes, and wells and recharge the ground water.
 - In India, most of the rainfall occurs during the monsoon season.
 - Heavy rain in a short period of time causes flood. No rain for a long period causes **drought**.
 - Most of the potable water becomes available to us as **ground water**.
 - As the number of tube-wells in an area increases, the level of ground water decreases.
 - There is an immediate requirement to harvest water. The basic idea behind rainwater harvesting is '**Catch water where it falls**'.
 - **In rainwater harvesting method**, the stored rainwater is used to recharge ground water.
 - **In rooftop rainwater harvesting system**, the rainwater is collected from rooftop in a storage tank. It allows the water to go into the pit through pipes. This water seeps and refills the ground water.

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1. Water is present in three forms.
 2. Solid form – snow and ice
 3. Liquid form – oceans, lakes, rivers, and underground water
 4. Gaseous form – water vapour in the atmosphere
 5. The three forms of water circulate through the water cycle and keep the total amount of water constant on the earth.
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