# WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT









### **What is Water Resource Management?**

WRM ensures that water is clean and safe to use. They monitor the health and status of the State's streams and aquifers. They develop and enforce rules to protect the waters and make sure everyone follows those rules. Their main goal is to make sure our state always has enough drinking water, manages droughts, and to keep our rivers, streams, and aquifers nice and clean for all of us to use.



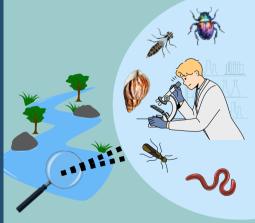
#### Where Our Water Comes From

New Jersey's water comes from rivers, reservoirs, and underground aquifers. Protecting water quality is important because it keeps our environment healthy and safe to use. If we can prevent water quality from getting harmed it can make treatment for drinking water more straightforward, and affordable.

#### **Wastewater Treatment**

Wastewater is generated by the use and disposal of water in our homes and businesses. It is important to treat this wastewater before it is discharged back into the environment.





## **Water Monitoring and Macroinvertebrates**

WRM collects samples, runs water quality tests, and sets water quality standards. We get an idea of water quality by looking at aquatic macroinvertebrates, or macros. Macros are small insects, worms, and snails that are big enough to see with the naked eye and live in streams, rivers, and ponds. They react to the smallest changes in water quality, so scientists study them as key indicator species to determine if the water is clean and healthy for fish and other animals.

## What is an Aquifer?

An aquifer is a layer of rock, sand, or gravel underground that stores and moves groundwater. It provides essential water for drinking, farming, and industry, particularly in dry areas. Aquifers also support ecosystems, filter water naturally, and offer a stable water source to mitigate the impacts of climate change.



