Vocabulary – Essential Standards 8.E. 1.3 & 1.4

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| **Word** | **Definition** |
| **8.E.1.3** |  |
| Potability | Water that is safe to drink. |
| Physical factors | A characteristic that can be observed directly or measured with a tool. Example: temperature, turbidity and water movement |
| Chemical factors | Substance that changes the chemistry within the water: examples: dissolved oxygen and other gases, pH, nitrates, and salinity. |
| Biological factors | Organisms that live within the water. |
| Temperature | A measure of the average energy of motion of the particles of a substance. |
| Dissolved oxygen | Is a measure of the amount of oxygen in water that is available for chemical reactions and for use by aquatic organisms |
| Nitrogen (Nitrates)/Phosphorous (phosphates) | Nitrates come from surface water: runoff, septic tank leakage, sewage and erosion of natural deposits.  Phosphates usually enter waterways from human and animal waste, laundry, cleaning and industrial cleaners. |
| pH | A measure of how acidic or how basic a liquid is |
| Turbidity | A measure of how clear the water is |
| Bio-indicators (macro-invertebrates) | An organism used to monitor the health of an ecosystem |
| Salinity | The saltiness of a body of water |
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| **8.E.1.4** |  |
| Pollutant | A harmful material released into the environment |
| Pollution | The release of an unwanted substance into the environment |
| Point Source Pollution | Pollution that comes from a single, identifiable site. |
| Non - point source pollution | Pollution that comes from many places or an unidentified source. |
| Monitor | Managing information |
| Water Quality | The degree of purity of water, determined by measuring the substances in water besides water molecules. |
| Solvent | A substance that dissolves another substance. |
| Stewardship | The following of practices that protect Earth’s resources. |
| Regulations | Rules to follow |
| Tolerant organisms | Organisms that are able to withstand some pollution |
| Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) | Government organization that regulates and monitors water and air quality. |
| Conservation | The careful use and management of natural resources |