

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Surface and Ground Water

### **Fresh Water on the Earth's land surface is Surface water.**

#### **Types:**

1. River systems: example the Nariva River, Ortoire River, Caroni River
2. Watersheds: the area of land that is drained by a river. In Trinidad there are 54 watersheds and Tobago has 15.

### **Ground water**

- Most large cities depend on surface water. All rivers are a result of precipitation (rain falls, snow melts).
- It all drains into the river. Amount of water that falls on water shed varies from year to year.
- Ground water is a precious and the most widely distributed resources of the earth and unlike any other mineral resource, it gets its annual replenishment from the meteoric precipitation.
- At present nearly one fifth of all the water used in the world is obtained from ground water resources. Agriculture is the greatest user of water accounting for 80% of all consumption.
- Due to rapid urbanization, infiltration of rainwater into sub-soil has drastically decreased, and recharging of ground water has diminished over the years.

### **Salt water**

Seawater = 3.5% salt, 96.5% water

- Salinity is the amount of dissolved salts in water.
- The salinity of the ocean averages 36 ppt (parts per thousands)
- There are some variations in salinity due.
- Humans can survive a month without food, but will only live a few days without water.

**Note:** freshwater – water that people can drink.