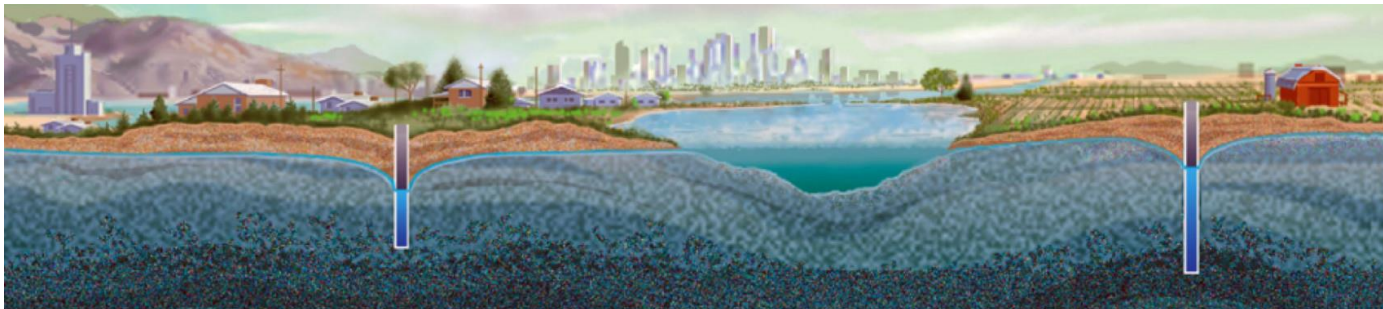




**CALIFORNIA
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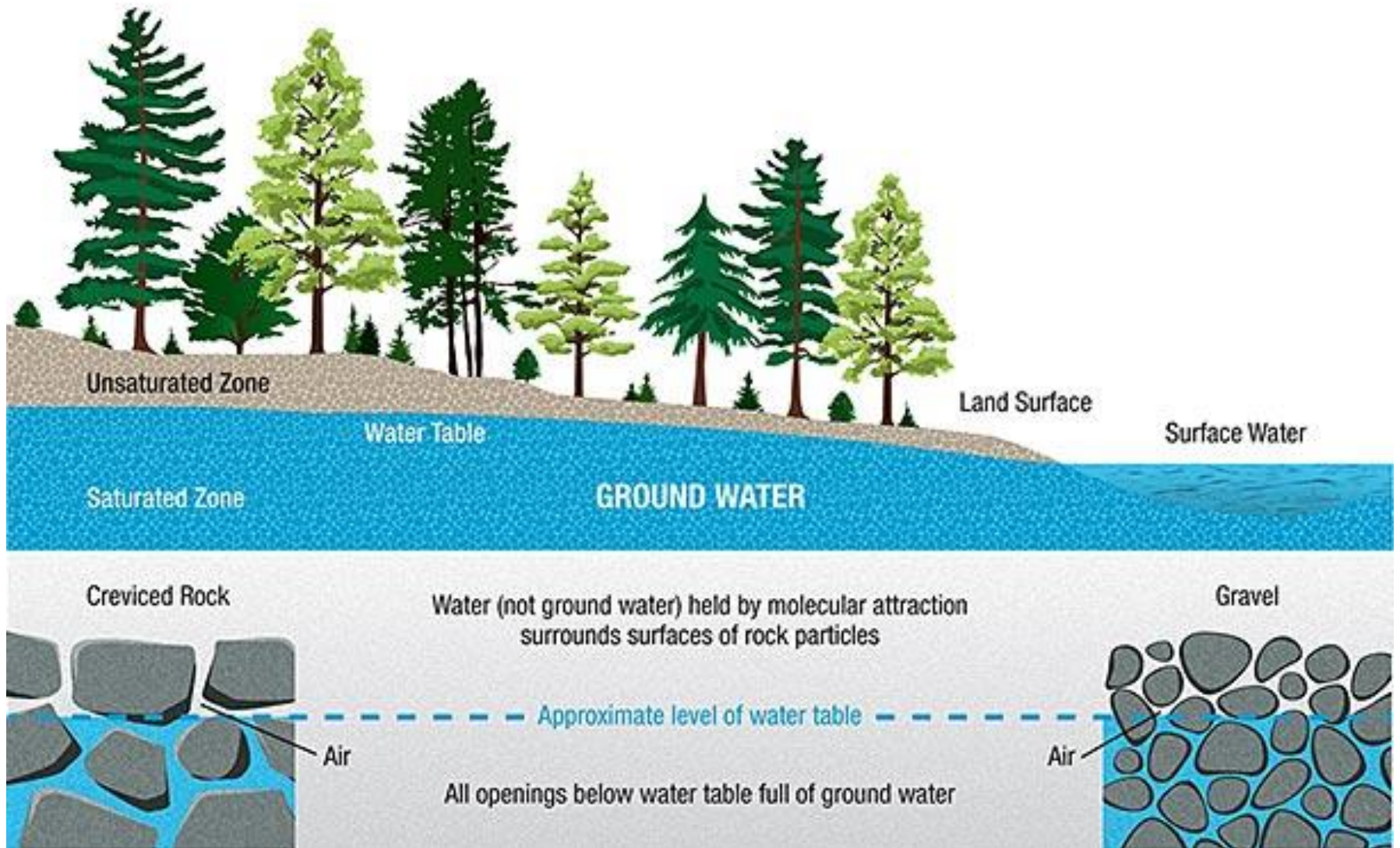
Sustainable Groundwater Law Update on Implementation



**California Water Association Small Company Seminar
November 2, 2016**

The Acronyms

- Sustainable Groundwater Management Act – SGMA
 - Passed by Legislature in 2014, Amended in 2015
- Bulletin 118 Boundaries
 - Basin Boundaries established by DWR, last updated in 2003
- Groundwater Sustainability Agency – GSA
 - Must be formed by June 30, 2017
- Groundwater Sustainability Plan - GSP
 - Must be developed by 2022



SGMA Passage and Implementation

- **Drought crisis created opportunity**
 - Legislation passed in 2014
 - SB 12 – technical clean-up legislation passed in 2015
 - ◆ Important because it clarified the participation of CPUC-regulated and mutual water utilities
- **SGMA requires groundwater basins to be managed sustainably (GSA)**
 - Focus on adjudicated basins deemed medium or high priority
 - Local control by one or more agencies forming a GSA
 - Powers of GSAs may include fee setting, restrictions on water use and coordination of land use/planning
- **Sustainable Management Plans are required five years after GSAs form**
 - Long term plan to stabilize or restore water levels in each basin
 - Coordination with other GSA's in same basin
 - If plans are not submitted or accepted State may take action

SGMA and CPUC Regulated Utilities

- **CPUC – regulated utilities have historically helped manage groundwater**
 - Adjudication and Watermaster boards
 - Sacramento Groundwater Agency
 - Basin Management groups
- **SB 12 clarified that CPUC regulated utilities can and should participate in GSAs**
 - Tension between governmental powers and representation
- **Different approaches in in each region**
- **Why be involved?**
 - Pump fees
 - Pumping curtailments
 - Land use decisions
 - New projects and possible funding

Links and Questions?

- **Some important links:**
 - Bulletin 118 Guidelines: <http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/bulletin118.cfm>
 - DWR SGMA Overview page: <http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/gsa.cfm>
- **Questions?**
- **Contact information**

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