GEOL 1070 785 Hometown water report

Due Feb. 12-14 (depending on your presentation day). No points will be given for late reports.

Research and report on the origin of drinking water for your parent’s house. Answer the following questions in a well written and well organized short paper (1-2 pages, double spaced). In addition, prepare a short oral report to be given to a small group of your classmates. The oral reports can include large maps that are not feasible to hand in with your written reports. Answer the following questions in your written and oral report:

1. Is the drinking water part of a municipal water supply, or is it a private well?
2. Is the drinking water source from surface water or groundwater?
3. What is the name of the body of water/aquifer the water comes from?
4. Provide a physical description and, if possible, a map of the water source: if surface water, identify the drainage basin; if groundwater, is it a confined or unconfined aquifer, what is the extent of the aquifer, what is the rock type, and where is it’s recharge?
5. Are there any past, present, or potential (that you can think of) threats of pollution or depletion to this drinking water source? (This includes cases where your water resource has been changed due to contamination or overuse).
6. What is the price per unit volume of water charged to your house?

Early in the semester we will discuss potential sources of information. They include web sites, Earth Sciences Map Library, my groundwater maps, municipality staff, parents, etc. If you are having trouble finding information, come see me. Don’t wait until the last minute!

Reports will be graded on the following point system, worth 7% of your final grade.

50 points: All above questions answered and some answers have expanded information/explanations beyond the required information. Answers are woven well into a short paper format, oral presentation is well organized and delivered well, maps used to support oral presentation, excellent research effort.

40 points: All questions answered and some answers have extended information. Answers are woven into a short paper format, oral presentation is good, maps used to support oral presentation, good research effort shown.

30 points: All but one or two questions answered, answers are adequate with little to no extended information. Answers are woven well into a short paper format, oral presentation brief but adequate, adequate research effort shown.

20 points: Most questions are answered, little to no extended information. Written answers are listed, oral presentation below average, below average research effort shown.

10 points. Few questions are answered, no extended information. Answers are listed, oral presentation lacks basic information, very poor research effort shown.

0 points. Unexcused absence on day of presentation.