

## What is a Watershed?

**Find and underline the answer in the text – then circle the correct answer**

1. The water that fills Lake Tahoe comes from...
  - a. underground springs
  - b. precipitation that falls within our watershed as rain and snow
  - c. creeks and ground water
  - d. the sky
  
2. What role do watersheds play in keeping water clean?
  - a. Watersheds are buildings that clean our water
  - b. Watersheds house chemicals to purify our water
  - c. Natural filtration processes tend to keep the water...clean.
  - d. Watersheds are underground tanks that filter our water.
  
3. What is nonpoint-source pollution?
  - a. Garbage you can't see
  - b. Factories and waste water treatment plants
  - c. Seemingly insignificant disturbances- a little eroded soil here, a little fertilizer there
  - d. A litter-bug
  
4. What does the Secchi Depth Chart measure?
  - a. It shows that Lake Tahoe's clarity has decreased from 105 feet in 1968 to about 65 feet...
  - b. It tracks average water clarity of Lake Tahoe
  - c. The distance you can see an object below the lake's surface
  - d. All of the above
  
5. What are BMPs?
  - a. Best Management Practices are basically repairs that prevent pollution from leaving our properties
  - b. BMP's stands for build basins, mulch and plant native vegetation
  - c. Be My Pal
  - d. A business that can repair your house

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## What is a Watershed?

1. A watershed is an area of land that catches rain or snow and drains runoff water into marshes, streams, rivers, \_\_\_\_\_ or into the groundwater.
2. Within the Lake Tahoe basin alone, there are \_\_\_\_\_ watersheds.
3. That includes 63 streams that drain into the lake, and one river, the \_\_\_\_\_ that carries water out.
4. Much of the pollution that clouds Tahoe's clear blue water is coming from \_\_\_\_\_.
5. All of those peaks and ridgelines you see around Lake Tahoe acts like a big bowl. Everything at the top eventually makes its way to the bottom and into the \_\_\_\_\_.