

Natural Disasters
and Earth System
Research

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Sinkholes

The natural disaster we researched were sinkholes. A sinkhole is a natural disaster where a giant hole forms in the ground. It's usually caused by collapse in the surface layer, erosion, or underground water. Sinkholes can be natural or man made.



Sinkholes are
mostly
common in
the U.S.
states:

Texas, Alabama,
Florida,
Pennsylvania,
Kentucky,
Tennessee, and
Missouri.

Sinkholes and the Hydrosphere

The hydrosphere represents water on the Earth's surface as in oceans, rivers, lakes and even clouds. Sinkholes have a big effect on Earth's hydrosphere because it can destroy our oceans, rivers, lakes, clouds, and affect Earth's water levels.



Sinkholes and the Atmosphere

Atmosphere is gas and air on earth.

Sinkholes can affect our atmosphere because dust can come up into the air and toxins could be dispersed.



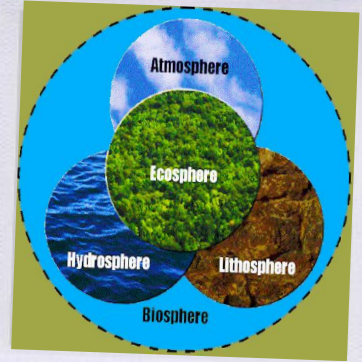
Sinkholes and the Geosphere

Sinkholes that are formed on land can cause the topography of that area and underground streams to divert.



Sinkholes and the Biosphere

Sinkholes destroy living things as they enter them. But if caused by water it could transfer the bio to new areas on the planet.



How can
sinkholes be
prevented?

- Old water mains can be updated

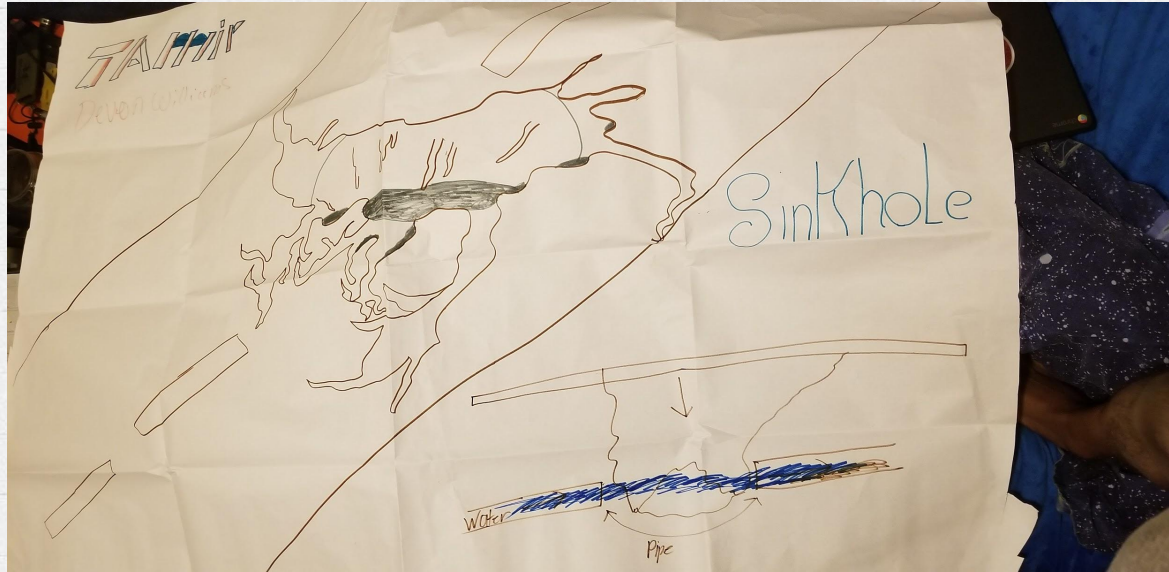
- Sewer Pipes can be updated

- Don't mine

- Maintain the underground system



Illustrations of sinkholes



Sources

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