By the numbers: South Dakota

- 1,505 geoscience employees (excludes self-employed)
- 238 million gallons/day: total groundwater withdrawal
$372 million: value of nonfuel mineral production in 2017
62 total disaster declarations, including 25 severe storm, 16 flood, and 14 fire disasters (1953-2017)?
$224,000: NSF GEO grants awarded in 2017

Read more in this Geoscience in Your State Factsheet...

Agencies Working on Geoscience Issues in South Dakota

South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources
https://denr.sd.gov/
To protect public health and the environment by providing environmental monitoring and natural resource assessment, technical and financial assistance for environmental projects, and environmental regulatory services; all done with reduced red tape, expanded e-government functions, and exceptional customer service to promote a prosperous economy while protecting South Dakota's environment and natural resources for today and tomorrow.

South Dakota Geological Survey
http://www.sdgs.usd.edu/
The mission of the Geological Survey Program is to perform scientific investigations that are designed to generate information on South Dakota's geologic and hydrologic resources. Fundamental aspects of those investigations are to include the collection, interpretation, and dissemination of geologic and hydrologic information leading to (1) a better understanding of the geology and hydrology of South Dakota, (2) better and easier use of the information by government, industry, and the public for decisions related to resource development and protection, (3) greater economic development, and (4) a better quality of life for South Dakota's citizens.

South Dakota Office of Emergency Management
https://dps.sd.gov/emergency-services/emergency-management
The purpose of the OEM is to protect South Dakotans and their property from the effects of natural, manmade, and technological disasters.

Maps & Visualizations

Interactive database for geologic maps of the United States
U.S. Geological Survey
The U.S. Geological Survey hosts the National Geologic Map Database (NGMDB). This interactive tool serves as a national archive for high-quality, standardized geologic maps created by the U.S. Geological Survey and state geological surveys. The MapView section of the NGMDB displays geologic maps...

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Case Studies & Factsheets
Groundwater use in the United States

Fresh water from underground Groundwater is any water found underground in the cracks and pores in soil, sand, or rock. Groundwater provides 25% of the fresh water used in the United States.1 It is particularly important for irrigation and domestic uses in arid or remote areas, where surface water...

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Webinars & Forums


The 2016 Critical Issues Forum was a 1-½ day meeting covering multiple aspects of groundwater depletion in the High Plains.

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