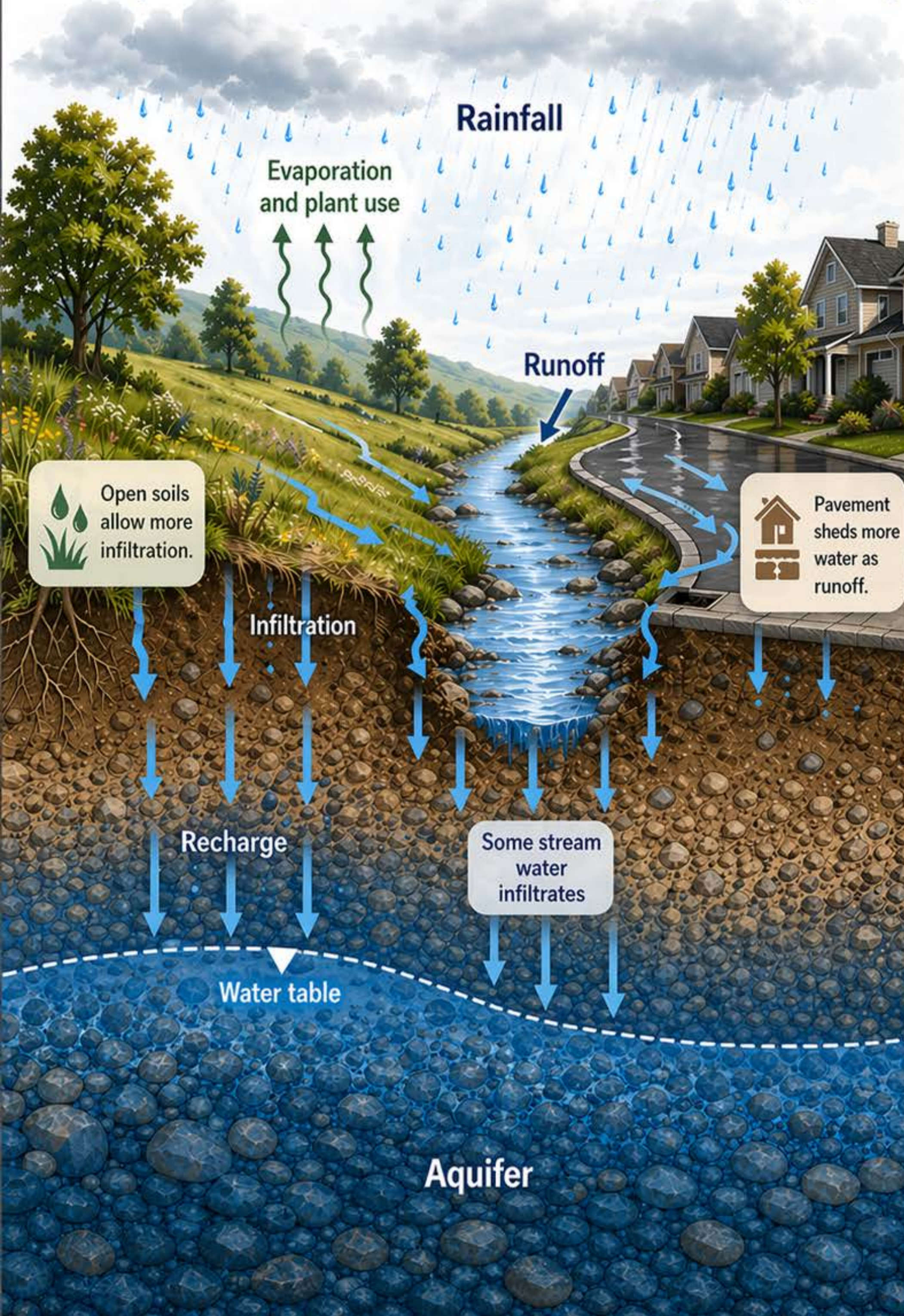






How Groundwater Recharge Works







Only some rain and surface water soak into the ground deeply enough to recharge an aquifer.



What happens to rainfall?

-  1 Some runs off to streams
-  2 Some evaporates or is used by plants
-  3 Some infiltrates into soil
-  4 Some stream water infiltrates and only some becomes groundwater recharge

Recharge conditions

More recharge	Less recharge
 Permeable soils	 Pavement
 Open land	 Compacted soils
 Connected floodplains	 Steep runoff pathways



Policy takeaway: Recharge is shaped by land use. Planning decisions at the surface affect groundwater storage below.