

Waterways in the U.S.A.



INLET: any area of water extending into the land from a larger body of water

GULF: the largest inlets

SOUND: long inlet that separates offshore islands from the mainland

TRIBUTARY: a stream or river that flows into a larger stream or river

RIVER SYSTEM: a river and its tributaries

DRAINAGE BASIN: the land drained by a river system

FALL LINE: a place where the land drops sharply, causing rivers to form waterfalls or rapids

**** **Important Places to Know** ****

* **Gulf of Mexico**: largest gulf bordering the U.S.

* **Great Lakes**: largest lakes in North America (greatest source of freshwater)

* **Great Salt Lake**: lake in Utah as salty as any ocean

* **Mississippi River**: this river and its tributaries make up the largest river system in the U.S.