

## GPS/Hydrosphere Unit Glossary

**anemometer** a tool used to measure wind speed

**atmosphere** the layer of gases that surrounds Earth and other planets

**barometer** a tool used to measure air pressure

**condensation** the changing of a gas into a liquid

**evaporation** the changing of a liquid into a gas

**front** a boundary between two air masses

**precipitation** water leaving clouds as rain, snow, sleet or hail

**rain gauge** a tool used to measure how much rain has fallen

**sleet** frozen rain drops

**sublimation** when ice turns into water vapor without first melting

**water cycle** the path that water takes as it evaporates from oceans, lakes and other sources, condenses, and falls to Earth as precipitation, and evaporates or flows back to the sea

**water table** the top level of groundwater in an aquifer