A surficial geology map shows the area covered with rocks, pebbles, and other materials that have been left behind by past geological processes. These materials form the surface layer of the Earth, and understanding them is crucial for various applications from mining to urban planning. Surficial deposits are formed by a variety of processes, including glacial, fluvial, and coastal deposition. Each type of deposit has characteristic features and properties that can be mapped and studied.

Surficial deposits can be classified into several types, including:
- **Glacial deposits**: These include till, outwash, and tillite, which are formed during and after the last ice age.
- **Fluvial deposits**: These are formed by rivers and include alluvium, which is deposited at the base of a river channel.
- **Coastal deposits**: These include beach and dune deposits, which are formed by the movement of sand along the shore.

Understanding the distribution and characteristics of these deposits helps in analyzing past environmental conditions and predicting future changes. For example, coastal deposits can be important for coastal protection and planning, while glacial deposits can be crucial for understanding the movement and history of the ice sheets.

Surficial geology maps are typically created using aerial photography, satellite imagery, and ground-based surveys. They are essential tools for geologists, engineers, and planners, providing valuable information about the subsurface environment.