**Types of Mass Movement**

**Mass Wasting:** Several processes that have the following in common

1. Downslope movement of rock or weathered material
2. Movement is due to pull of gravity
3. there is no flowing medium that carries the material

\*usually occurs when gravitational forces  **Exceed** Frictional forces

**Why is mass wasting important**

1. Process represent a significant hazard to property
2. Need to identify where and under that condition the process occurred
3. Avoid construction in areas prone to mass wasting

Force behind Mass Wasting

1. Weight of material on slope
2. Resistance of the material
3. Steepness of slope
4. **Saturation:** Water holds particles together, but too much water acts as a lubricant
5. Biological factors such as vegetation
6. Triggers

Possible Triggers

1. Earthquakes
2. Construction work
3. Flooding

**How are mass movement events classified**

1. Type of material that moves
2. Nature of movement
3. How fast material moves

**Creep**: slow and steady movement of small particles

**Flows**: materials move as though they are a thick liquid

**Slides:** Rapid slide of materials along a curved surface

**Avalanches:** landslides that occur in mountainous areas with thick accumulations

**Rock Falls:** Sporadic rapid movements of large loose materials

**How do we help prevent mass movement**

1. Remove weight from slope
2. Vegetation
3. Drainage systems to divert running water
4. Cables and anchoring systems