

## Water

As the climate warms, the water carrying capacity of the atmosphere is increasing, as are the temperature contrasts between land, sea, and ice. This is amplifying the extremes of floods and droughts in both timing and location. Storms are getting wetter and more intense, but more sporadic. Currently, much of the planet's rainfall is channeled directly back into the ocean by this civilization's vast expanse of pavement, curbs, flood control channels, and dikes, rather than spreading out and soaking in to water our crops and replenish our aquifers. We need to slow the water down. By far, the most efficient place to store water is in the ground.

Starting at the top, we need to help the beavers reestablish. We've made such a mess of it that they're having a hard time rebuilding. Much of this is just boots on the ground with hand tools moving logs and rocks to meander the streams on a scale a bit too big for the beavers. Put the internet away for a day and enjoy some quality time with the beavers in the woods.

A bit further down, as the streams get too big for the beavers, little check dams, not to stop the water, just to slow it down. When the flood subsides it needs to flow free for the salmon and all the other aquatic life.

As the streams flow into civilization, pavement and curbs channel the rain directly back into the streams and rivers and on to the ocean. In suburbia, curb cuts and little ponds and wetlands can put most of that water back in the ground. The swap to electric cars and E bikes will help us keep the streets clean. Unfortunately, much of the soil of suburbia has been poisoned by our indiscriminate use of salt, herbicides and pesticides. It will take years to leach it all out, but we need to get started.

The toxic runoff of industry during floods should still go straight back to the ocean if we can't keep it contained. We need to put higher dykes around toxic industrial sites. It sucks when the floods deposit toxic sludge on our farmlands and gardens.

We need to move out of the flood plains and blow some dikes to spread the water out so it can soak in and refill our aquifers. We need to restore our wetlands. This ain't gonna happen quickly, but we need to get started.

Where the rivers meet the ocean, we need to spread them out and slow them down to rebuild the wetlands that protect our coastlines from increasingly violent storms.

We can't wait for the government or some people called 'they' to get it done. We've handed the federal government over to the oligarchs, and they're mostly scurrilous grifters, deranged megalomaniacs, and their ignorant suck-ups, who haven't got a clue what needs to get done. There ain't no 'they', there's only us, and we need to get our asses in gear now.

There's a lot of work that needs to get done to restore our watershed, and most of it can be done at a very local level. Much of it will need to be voluntary with some local tax money for expenses.