

human

coexistence

beaver



Why Beavers Are Important

- They increase biodiversity by creating wetland habitat that also slows wildfires
- They restore streams and repair erosion
- Their ponds recharge aquifers and stabilize the water table
- Their dams regulate stream flow, mitigate flooding, and improve water quality by filtering pollutants and sediment

Beavers in Virginia

- Present in all 95 counties
- Relocation is not permitted by state law
- Ecotone Ecological Restoration (ecotoneinc.com) installs flow devices in the Virginia Piedmont area



The Clifton Institute



Ineffective Management Methods

Destroying Dams

The beavers will quickly rebuild. When you unclog a pipe or culvert, you are essentially creating a new leak for them to 'fix.'

Lethal Trapping

New individuals will move into the area because it is still good-quality beaver habitat.

These are not long-term sustainable solutions!

Nonlethal Management Options

For Tree Chewing

Wrap trees with 8 gauge steel mesh cylinders 4 feet up the trunk or paint trunks with a sand/latex mixture.

For Flooding

Have a flow device (pond leveler/beaver deceiver) installed. The device allows beavers to continue their natural building behaviors while you control the water level of the pond.



For more information and resources, contact Alison Zak
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