



Water is essential for life

A person can live for three weeks without food, but around one week without water.

Scientists are working to safeguard the long term availability and quality of this critical natural resource.

Scientists are developing natural flood management techniques to hold water, sediment and nutrients in the landscape when there is excess runoff of rainfall. Saplings in engineered log jams are also great filtering out pollutants.

Excessive rain can wash away important nutrients and top soil.

Scientists have developed a new grass with huge roots that can change the structure of soils. It holds much more water than usual and reduces water runoff by 51%.



Scientists are running field and catchment scale trials researching different farming and drainage systems to encourage farmers to water harvest - water farming. Slowing the flow allows sediments to drop-out and clean water whilst providing habitats for insects and birds.