

Living with Beavers in the Southeast U.S.



Why Beavers Matter:

Beavers are a **keystone species**.

By building dams, beavers create ponds and wetlands that:

- improve water quality
- promote biodiversity, and
- restore watershed health.

Benefits of Beavers in the Southeast

- Wetland loss is a major issue in the region—beavers help reverse it.
- Streams benefit from sediment reduction and bank stabilization.
- High biodiversity provides critical ecosystem services for our environmental and economic gain.

There are **non-lethal strategies** for managing beavers!

The Trapping 'Trap'

Traditional methods of beaver management are **uncertain**.

Dam Removal– Beavers will likely rebuild it.



Trap and kill– New beavers often move in.

Coexistence Strategies

Rather than eradicating beavers, try:



Pond levelers and culvert fences prevent flooding | Fencing protects trees



Species Benefited by Beavers

