



Do you know these water facts?

- ◆ Most of the earth's water is in a constant cycle similar to our cardiovascular system. The combination of severe storms and barriers to absorption and flow (like dams and non-permeable surfaces) throws the system out of whack by flushing water through this natural system too quickly.
- ◆ Geology shapes the way water flows through the ground. Down below, spaces between soil, gravel & rocks are filled with water. Different soils do not absorb and filter water in the same way. For example, the Ipswich River has one shared aquifer for the entire watershed, while some regions may have separate aquifers.
- ◆ Freshwater is only a tiny percentage of the water on earth. Surface water (lakes, rivers, streams, and ponds) are only a portion of our freshwater. More water is stored beneath the ground and water absorbed through the ground flows down towards the aquifer and out to sea. The upper surface of this water-filled area is called the water table.
- ◆ On average, each American uses about 80-100 gallons of water per day for indoor home uses alone? That's around 3.3 billion gallons of water used per day!
- ◆ Nature has its own desalination process. Evaporation, precipitation, and percolation each remove salt from water. When water can be absorbed into ground, it picks up less pollution and is then filtered by the ground. That's why spring water is so pure!
- ◆ When rivers, streams, and ponds go dry it's because the water table is too low to reach the surface. As time passes without groundwater recharge from rain or snow, the water table drops further, impacting wells and aquifers.
- ◆ Low impact development (LID), greenscaping, and green infrastructure are all nature methods of replicating the natural water cycle? Similar to the solar and wind energy movements, improving the way we design our cities and towns with hydrology in mind allows us to benefit from our relationship with nature, rather than struggle against it.
- ◆ Did you know the 14 cities and towns that rely on the Ipswich River's watershed could collectively save 3.5 million gallons per week by each using only 10 gallons less a week. That's less than an average shower!