

Floodplain Functions

Floodplains in our area serve a beneficial purpose to our quality of life. These low areas are where rainfall goes to drain. When the rainfall drains into the ground, it helps reduce flooding and recharges our drinking water supply.

These floodplains also serve as filters of stormwater runoff as it seeps through the ground and into our aquifer. The natural vegetation filters out impurities and uses excess nutrients. This aquifer is a source of drinking water, and filtering helps contain pollution before it reaches our aquifer. It is important that we appreciate our floodplains, and try to maintain, preserve and restore these areas whenever possible.

Benefits of Floods and Floodplains

- o Floods return nutrients and rich sediments to the land.*
- o Floods replenish the water within wetlands.*
- o Floodplains provide temporary storage of floodwaters to minimize flood damage in other areas.*
- o Floodplains serve as recharge areas for the aquifer.*
- o Floodplains improve water quality by filtering sediments and pollutants out of floodwaters.*
- o Floodplains serve as important natural habitats.*