

# The Valley Water Journal



February 2019  Volume 1



## Welcome to The Valley Water Journal!

By Jan Lambert, Author of *Water, Land and Climate- The Critical Connection*

Water covers over two-thirds of the planet's surface, but the vast majority is in the oceans, and just a tiny minority is liquid fresh water. Water is everywhere, on the surface, in the ground, in the air. Our bodies are mostly water, and we cannot survive more than a few days without it. But what about our attitude, and attention toward water? Probably no one wants to drink or swim in tainted water, or suffer from droughts and floods and violent rainstorms.

The title of *The Valley Water Journal* is meaningful because valleys are where much of the water in a region ends up, whether

rapidly as stormwater flow overland or more gradually through the land. River valleys are where most people live, and valley rivers are often the center of communities and the links between communities. However, much of the water cycle is out of view but still vitally important to all of us.

So why do I want to start this water journal? Because it is a natural next step from *The Valley Green Journal*, a step for which I have a deep interest. The more understanding that more people have about water, the better that every-

one's lives will be, if more people are willing to take simple steps to treat water as part of a natural cycle instead of as a commodity to be bought, sold, wasted, polluted and taken for granted. It is my spiritual conviction that we humans were created by God to be workers for good, and that the vast majority of people are looking for ways to work for good, to raise their families in healthful environments, and to feel like a

needed part of their communities.

As with *The Valley Green Journal*, our goal is to report on positive action for communities—in the Connecticut River Valley of Vermont and New Hampshire, USA, where we live, and across the globe. It is so important for people to know that positive solutions for the challenges of water problems are out there. We want to be one place where you can find interesting, timely articles inspiring individual and community action on this most basic and vital topic of water.



*Courtesy photo*  
Vegetated swales in developed areas help to infiltrate water into the ground.



*Jan Lambert photo*

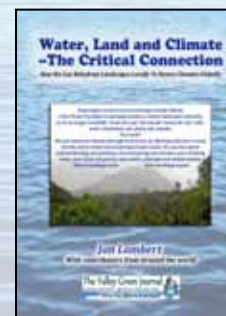
Connecticut River near Charlestown NH.

**Read this book for astounding information on how water restoration is the way to climate restoration!**

💧 Order in person or by phone at The Book Nook, 136 Main St., Ludlow VT, 802-228-3238 or, email: [thebooknookvt@hotmail.com](mailto:thebooknookvt@hotmail.com). Inquire about discounts to educators.

💧 Online orders at Boston College Bookstore [www.bcbookstore.com](http://www.bcbookstore.com). Search for "Water, Land and Climate."

Jan Lambert, editor of The Valley Green Journal, has just published her first book, with the help of contributors from around the world. It is entitled, *Water, Land and Climate – The Critical Connection: How We Can Rehydrate Landscapes Locally to Renew Climates Globally*. Find out the latest thinking and action showing how important it for all of us, from homeowners to entire communities, to welcome rain back into our landscapes, and restore local water cycles to renew our climate, for humanity for all life on Planet Earth.



**\$19.95**

**Mission of The Valley Water Journal: To promote appreciation of water as central to the welfare of humanity and all life; to serve as information and inspiration for action to promote natural water cycles, climate moderation, soil health and clean water, and to reduce droughts and floods.**

# Beavers As Partners-A Focus on Water

By Jan Lambert

Beavers As Partners was started as a focus of *The Valley Green Journal* to raise awareness of the critical role that beavers play in restoring healthy landscapes, through their construction of rich wetlands. These unique ecosystems are vital for flood and drought reduction, habitat for numerous wildlife species, and regulation of climate by replenishing atmospheric water cycles. Unfortunately beavers sometimes cause flooding of roads, but nonlethal management has been shown to be more cost-effective and ecologically beneficial. The Beavers As Partners focus will help landowners and public road and land managers make informed decisions about problem beavers. Find more on Beavers As Partners at [www.valleygreenjournal.com](http://www.valleygreenjournal.com). For more information on nonlethal management of beavers, contact Skip Lisle, inventor of the Beaver Deceiver flow device systems, at [www.beaverdeceivers.com](http://www.beaverdeceivers.com).



Lisa Tennyson photo.

**The Valley Water Journal (VWJ) is a publication of The Valley Green Journal (VGJ). This two-page introduction to The VWJ is included in the Feb./March 2019 print and online issue of the VGJ. We will start publishing an electronic newsletter of the VWJ each odd-numbered month beginning March 2019. To subscribe to VWJ e-newsletter (free), email [jan@valleygreenjournal.com](mailto:jan@valleygreenjournal.com), or if you have ideas for articles or would like to advertise.**

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## Voices of Water for Climate



Jan Lambert photo  
Street drain in Keene NH USA directs stormwater into rain garden, creating attractive vegetated area in urban setting.

*Throughout history, and especially in the last century we humans have allowed water to flow off bare farm fields, down deforested slopes, and literally down the drain as storm water in our developed areas. This constant “bleeding” of water from our human-managed landscapes must be slowed down because it is contributing mightily to excessive drought, floods, heat waves, severe storms and sea level rise. We can manage our landscapes effectively to bring*

*barren land back to a “soil carbon sponge” that supports vegetative lushness, agricultural and forest productivity, and habitat for wildlife- and cools the atmosphere leading ultimately to an improved climate.*



Find out more at our website, [www.vow4climate.org](http://www.vow4climate.org)