



Using Water Flow Control Devices and Tree-Wrapping Strategies to Resolve Beaver Problems

The beaver's (*Castor canadensis*) return to its former range has been accompanied by a rising number of complaints about costly damage to property, septic systems, and roadways as a result of the beaver's keen water impoundment abilities. The traditional response is to trap and remove beavers, but this strategy is often confounded by the continual immigration of beavers from the surrounding habitat. Water flow control devices (WFCDs) provide an effective but little-known way to stop beaver-caused flooding. These simple pipe-based devices control the water level while allowing the beavers to remain in their habitat. Likewise, simple tree-wrapping and bark-painting strategies can effectively prevent tree felling. Water flow control devices and tree wrapping strategies demonstrate much potential for resolving beaver-related problems yet remain little-known in the animal management field and in public consciousness.

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