



# Bothered by Beavers?

If you're a landowner worried about beavers damaging your property, Defenders of Wildlife can help.



**B**eavers are nature's engineers. To establish safe places to construct lodges and raise their families, they build temporary dams on small streams. The resulting ponds and wetlands store water for later use (similar to dams constructed by humans), keep rivers flowing year-round, reduce seasonal flood damage and wildfire hazard, and create habitat for many other species. These are particularly valuable services in arid western states.

But in their industriousness, beavers can take down trees and cause flooding on your property. Defenders of Wildlife has a program to help you identify—and pay for—simple mitigation measures to prevent this damage while allowing beavers to continue providing vital ecosystem services to your community.



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## Beaver Coexistence Incentive Program

Defenders' Beaver Coexistence Incentive Program helps landowners understand the value of beavers and implement nonlethal solutions to the problems they can cause on private property.

These solutions, which include simple measures like fencing or paint mixed with sand to protect trees and flow devices to control water levels, can effectively and inexpensively prevent beaver damage to your property.

We'll work with you to determine the best solution for your particular situation. And we'll reimburse you for at least 50% of the cost.

Participating in the program is easy:

1. Plan your project. Defenders can answer your questions and provide technical advice specific to your needs. Note that for flow devices, such as pond levelers and culvert protectors, you must contact us before purchasing materials and installing to ensure your design complies with our reimbursement requirements.
2. Once you complete your project, fill out an application form and submit it along with the required supporting documentation (specified on the form) to obtain your reimbursement.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Program basics and application form:  
[defenders.org/bothersome-beaver](https://defenders.org/bothersome-beaver)

### Questions?

In Colorado, Montana and Wyoming:  
email [rockiesregion@defenders.org](mailto:rockiesregion@defenders.org)  
or call (303) 825-0918

In Arizona and New Mexico:  
email [southwest@defenders.org](mailto:southwest@defenders.org)  
or call (505) 395-7330





## BEAVER MITIGATION MEASURES

### Fencing to Prevent Tree Felling

A wire fence around the base of a tree is a simple way to prevent beavers from cutting it down.



#### General fence guidelines

- Heavy gauge wire (14 or thicker)
- 2"x2" or 2"x4" wire spacing
- 12" gap between tree and fence
- Landscape staples or stakes to secure fence to ground

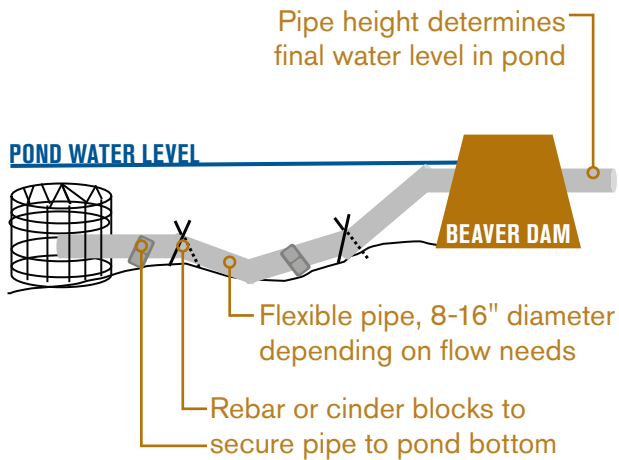
### Flow Devices to Prevent Flooding

A properly installed flow device such as a pond leveler prevents flooding associated with beaver dams.



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### Flow device installation example



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Culverts are common conflict points, but a simple culvert fence can usually prevent beavers from damming in these areas.



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### Culvert fence example

Beavers build partial dams along the fence, keeping the culvert clear. The trapezoidal shape of the fence forces them to build a longer dam and discourages them from continuing to build as the fence opening gets wider and directs them farther from the source of the flowing water at the culvert inlet.

