

**WALKING WATERS**  
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sheds? The soil is like a reservoir. Water is stored between the soil particles. Rain, upon reaching the ground, either soaks into the earth or runs downhill to the nearest stream. Over hard, barren soil it flows rapidly, as it would down a paved city street, slicing off the top layers of soil on its agitated journey to the lowlands. On the other hand, in well-protected woods, it is another story.

The forest floor looks passive, but it is dramatically alive. It is teeming with a myriad of microscopic life and tiny animals! Their combined action in decomposing fallen leaves, branches, bark and loosening up the soil particles is tremendous. As anyone who has walked in ungrazed woods knows, there is a soft loose, sponge-like forest floor beneath the trees. This mat greedily traps the water that falls upon it. The roots of the vegetation act like sheathing which tenaciously holds the soil in place, and also like pipes to conduct the water into the deeper layers of the soil. The leaves of the vegetation, and especially the litter on the ground, cushion the hammering effect of the rain drops keeping them from splashing the soil particles about and clogging up the millions of tiny channels that lead to underground storage.

In addition, the trees and other plants cast shadows that aid in reducing the rate of snow-melting and evaporation thus giving the water more time to percolate into the soil. The plants use some of the water retained in the soil to live. But much of it works its way down into the ground to eventually replenish the cool springs, the streams, rivers, wells, lakes, and finally the oceans. In most parts of the country, by the

time this water emerges from the earth as a spring or is tapped in a well, nature has filtered and purified it so that it is ready for human use.

To accommodate our ever-increasing population, our towns and cities must expand. With this growth, the demand for water for agriculture, industry and home use has skyrocketed at an unpredictable rate. But before we can use it, our water must first fall upon the land. The condition and treatment of the land from which it comes determines the quality and amount of water that is produced. In the world-famed Hydrological Laboratory at Coweeta, near Franklin, North Carolina, the U. S. Forest Service is studying the behaviour of water. This new knowledge is being put to work as rapidly as it is made available.

However, the national concern over water supplies is not new. As early as 1890 the U. S. Congress appropriated \$2,000 for the Division of Forestry, now the U. S. Forest Service, "for experiments in the production of rain." Dr. B. E. Fernow, then Chief of the Division, recognized that management of the already available water supplies was intensely important.

In his annual report of 1891 he stated, "before even attempting the control of precipitation, our studies, in the opinion of the writer, should be directed to secure better management of the water supplies as they are precipitated and become available by natural causes." He concluded, "Without forest management, no rational water management possible."

Congress gave further recognition to the fact that the forests are among our best water-regulators when in 1911, it

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Gouge, Mrs. Sim, 10 A.	9.08	Thomas, Mrs. C. C., 8 A.	15.41	Harris, James, 1/2 A.	44.62	Blankinship, M. H. Est., 170 Acres	\$1.63	Shepherd, Naomi, 15 A.	7.56
Gouge, Oesie, 1 1/2 A.	11.33	Thomas, Jeter, 1 A.	9.94	Letterman, D. L., 4 A.	8.72	Burleson, T. A., 80 A.	\$0.18	Shepherd, Jim, 18 A.	9.12
Gouge, Reed, 40 A.	12.08	Thomas, France, 8 A.	16.61	McMahan, Talmadge, 2 A.	7.51	Hensley, Mrs. Emma, 21 1/2 Acres	48.88	Shepherd, John, 19 A.	10.15
Higgins, Lester, 1 A.	8.50	Towe, J. B., 2 A.	18.47	McMahan, Henry, 5 1/2 A.	6.46	Hyatt, Fred, 28 A.	38.76		
Hall, Charlie, 44 1/2 A.	80.89	Ward, Howard, 5 A.	15.88	McMahan, W. M., 23 A.	15.08	Hutchins, Gilbert, 54 A.	39.45		
Hall, George D., 23-4 A.	25.51	Wilcox, Calvin, 5 A.	25.89	McPeters, Geneva, 2 A.	2.19	McMahan, Erwin Hrs., 12 A 4 3/4	4.31		
Hensley, Sam, 12 A.	14.92	Wyatt, J. Iss, 1 A.	43.80	McPeters, Bill, 6 1/2 A.	7.71	Penland, Lawrence O., 4 1/2 Acres	12.04		
Honeycutt, Heirs, 18 A.	8.22	Wyatt, Milo, 6 A.	27.14	Non-Metallics Mineral Co., 175 Acres	101.52	Rathbone, Charlie, 10 A.	4.21		
Hughes, E. R., 4 A.	5.94	Young, Zeb, 50 A. Min. inst.	6.12	Ogle, H. B., 20 A.	11.89	Ray, H. E., 1 A.	5.64		
Jones, James, 6 A.	35.53	Young, Ed & Zeb, 121 A.	50.34	Rugney, W. H., 2 A.	3.26	Wilson, James, 11 A.	15.39		
Lewis, Milt, 28 A.	9.84	Young, Mrs. R. L., 10 A.	15.37	Ray, Barnett, 31 1/2 A.	37.51	PRICES CREEK TOWNSHIP			
McNeil, Connie, 1 A.	8.98	Young, James & Walt, 14 A.	5.36	Ray, Clarence, 5 A.	8.53	Banks, W. B., 60 A.	\$21.41		
McFalls, Jeter, 10 A.	12.93	Young, Ed J., 2 A.	55.02	Rathbone, Kenneth, 4 A.	8.55	Blankinship, G. A. Hrs., 24 Acres	5.93		
McCracken, Harry, 5 A.	3.26	Young, Lynn, 20 A.	19.20	Rathbone, Frank, 4 A.	6.71	Burleson & Banks, 720 A.	49.43		
McCracken, R. H. Est., 123 Acres	35.55	Young, Lonas R., 2 A.	22.35	Rathbone, Mrs. Willard, 25 Acres	6.42	Balance	49.43		
McCurry, Vaughn, 1 A.	12.38	Young, J. D. Hrs., 50 A.	7.08	Robinson, David, 5 A.	5.64	Edwards, Burgis, 168 A.	16.16		
Murphy, John, 2 1/2 A.	16.73	SOUTH TOE TOWNSHIP		Robinson, Hermon, 1 A.	10.73	Edwards, Bruce, 2 A.	5.23		
Martin, Pauline, 6 A.	14.71	Autrey, Gaither, 5 A.	\$8.79	Robinson, Gay, 1/2 A.	5.32	Fox, John, 6 A.	10.85		
Peek, Hiram, 3 A.	20.83	Autrey, Mary Nettie, 3 A.	2.88	Robinson, G. D., 2 A.	20.08	Hensley, Guy Lula, 6 A.	3.41		
Presnell, Claude E., 40 A.	16.98	Buchanan, Lee, 2 1/2 A.	7.76	Sheffer, Jack, 13 A.	11.81	Jamerson, Roy, 25 A.	14.61		
Presnell, Clarence, 9 A.	18.92	Branch, B. M., 1/2 A.	7.75	Simmons, W. A. Hrs., 29 A	6.47	Metcalf, J. R., 31 A. bal.	8.58		
Presnell, Thad, 3 A.	33.27	Boone, Earl, 2 A.	6.50	Shuford, Carl, 1 1/2 A.	12.78	Metcalf, Willard Est., Min. inst.	4.21		
Renfro, Aster, 1 A.	8.14	Brown, Mrs. E. A., 1 1/2 A.	25.99	Shuford, W. A. Hrs, 12 A	10.54	Melton, Lewis, 1 A.	3.26		
Riddle, A. J. Est. 11-4 A.	22.64	Cook, Roger, 2 1/2 A.	12.73	Shuford, Wayland, 23 A.	14.63	Pitman, Amanda, 22 1/2 A.	8.36		
Robinson, Verlin, 12 A.	23.12	Chrisawn, Charlie, 10 A.	4.37	Yelton & Wilson, 22 A.	13.68	Robinson, Mack, 17 A.	23.04		
Robinson, Carl, Lawrence & Jay, 46 Acres	20.28	Fairchilds, Joe, 56 A.	11.30	Wilson, J. J. Hrs, 17 A	3.97	Ray, Blake, 12 A.	14.15		
Sparks, Roy, 1 A.	15.79	Fender, Arlin, 6 1/2 A.	27.68	Wilson, R. W., 12 A.	3.97	Roland, Barnett, 11 1/2 A.	4.07		
Sparks, Ray, 1 A.	8.82	Gouge, Herbert, 2 A.	11.40	Wilson, Ervin, 20 A.	22.84	Styles, Utah, 40 A.	28.08		
Sparks, Garland, 17 A.	19.50	Gilley, T. G. Est., 79 A.	13.41	Wilson, Worley, 55 A.	31.85	Styles, E. H. Hrs., 66 A.	23.60		
Suggett, Mrs. O. L. 7 A.	5.55	Hudgins, Fay, 14 A.	7.22	PENSACOLA TOWNSHIP					
Tolly, S. M., 54 A.	9.55	Haney, Folen, 12 A.	8.06	Allen, John Hrs., 2 A.	\$2.31				
		Huskins, Floyd, 23 A.	35.22	Banks, Donald & J. R., 31 A	5.50				
		Hall, Eugene, 3-4 A.	4.70						

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