

Capture Spring. Sustain Summer.

Spring runoff is one of Big Sky's greatest water resources. By storing more of it — in our aquifers, natural systems, and reservoirs — and using less on summer landscapes, we can build a more resilient water supply for the future. This isn't about holding water back — it's about releasing it more gradually, which is better for Big Sky and for the communities downstream.

Opportunity #1

Managed Aquifer Recharge



One of Big Sky's best opportunities lies beneath it.

Directing spring runoff and stormwater into the ground to recharge our natural aquifers.

Opportunity #2

Natural Water Storage



Work with nature to store water.

Storing water naturally across the landscape improves stream health, habitat, and late-season water availability, often at a relatively low cost.

Opportunity #3

Reduced Summer Irrigation



Small changes add up to big savings.

Cutting back on summer irrigation is one of the biggest opportunities to stretch Big Sky's water supply — and it doesn't require any new infrastructure. The Alpenscapes program helps residents make that shift.

Numbers to know: 43,000 acre-feet of spring runoff leaves the West Fork each year, enough to fill 21,200 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

Protecting the headwaters of the Gallatin and Madison Rivers through smart water management, restoration, and reuse.