



THE PEACEABLE EARTH

YEAR 34, MIDSUMMER

GOOD NEWS FROM A WORLD MADE NEW • RIVER DISTRICT • RESTORED VALLEY

TODAY

82°F / 64°F; warm, with gentle rain after sunset

RIVER

Clear and steady; footpaths above the ford are dry

GARDENS

Wildflower seed collection begins today

SUNSET

8:28 p.m.

GATHERING

Riverbank picnic at 7:00 p.m.

THE VALLEY BLOOMS AGAIN

Water returns to a dry valley, and neighbors celebrate the first season of shade, flowers, and fruit where only dust once moved.



Clear water reaches the lower terraces as families plant reeds and young trees along the restored banks.

COVER REPORT

At first, the old valley offered compacted soil and a streambed hidden beneath stones and brush. Restoring it took more than strength. Neighbors studied the slope, learned where water once moved, and worked slowly enough to avoid washing away the soil they hoped to heal. This week, clear water reached the lower terraces for the first time. Children ran beside it, not because the channel was dramatic, but because it was real. Reeds now hold the banks in place. Young willows cast narrow lines of shade. Wildflowers have begun spreading beyond the first planted beds. The scene brings to mind Isaiah 35:1-7, where thirsty ground is pictured becoming springs and the desert rejoicing with blossoms.

The restoration team insists that the valley is not finished. Trees need years to mature, paths must be protected during rain, and every household will help watch the water. That unfinished quality is part of the joy. Paradise is not being treated as a display to admire from a distance. Under Jesus Christ's peaceful Kingdom rule, it is a home being cared for as part of the earth Jehovah has entrusted to humankind, one stream, seed, and generous pair of hands at a time.

TOP STORIES

Cedar Hollow Spring Flows Again

A spring remembered in family stories is flowing clearly again near Cedar Hollow. Residents found the old channel beneath fallen stone and cleared it by hand to protect nearby roots. The first pool is being left undisturbed while frogs, insects, and birds return. A narrow viewing path will open next week after the banks have settled.

New Footbridge Opens Above the Ford

The river district's new footbridge opened at noon, linking the orchard terraces with the western teaching gardens. Its broad rails and gentle slope were shaped for children, older neighbors, carts, and anyone who prefers a slower crossing. A young goat entered the bridge just before the opening gathering and stood in the center until its caretaker calmly guided it onward, delaying the walk by eleven minutes and giving everyone an unscheduled lesson in patience.

DEPARTMENTS

Garden and Harvest

Watermelons are ripening early on the southern beds. Gardeners are asked to leave the striped markers in place until the stems curl and dry. Evening volunteers are also needed to gather chamomile before the overnight rain.

Children Ask: Will There Still Be Weeds?

A weed is often simply a plant growing where someone did not plan for it. Gardens will still invite attention, choice, and useful work. Some unwanted plants can be moved, some can feed animals, and some may turn out to be beautiful once we learn their proper place. A perfect earth need not be an earth with nothing left to learn.

COMMUNITY BOARD

- 6:30 a.m.: Bird count along the upper stream
- 9:00 a.m.: Willow planting and bank repair
- 3:00 p.m.: Bridge-opening walk for children
- 7:00 p.m.: Riverbank picnic and acoustic music

NEIGHBORLY ADVICE

Warm counsel for everyday questions.

Q. Every time I leave pies on the patio to cool, bears follow the scent and take them before the filling has set. The patio faces their usual route to the berry meadow. How do I keep the pies while keeping the area calm and welcoming? — *Baker by the River*

A. FROM THE EDITOR Your wish to protect the bears as well as the pies is a kind place to begin. Cool the pies indoors near a screened window, remove food scraps and strong scents from the patio, and do not replace the pies with other food outdoors. That would only teach the bears to keep checking the house. Ask an animal caretaker to help shift their route if needed, and give the animals plenty of space while that is done. The goal is not to scold a bear for following its nose; it is to stop turning your patio into an accidental feeding place. Your blueberry pies should cool safely, and the bears can continue toward the food that naturally belongs in the meadow. — *The Editor*

Inspired by: Isaiah 35:1-7; Psalm 72:16; Psalm 104:10-14 The Peaceable Earth is imaginative Bible-inspired fiction. It is not an official publication of, or statement of doctrine by, Jehovah's Witnesses.