

[EarthBeat](#)  
[Justice](#)

by Gary Moos

[View Author Profile](#)

## **[Join the Conversation](#)**

Send your thoughts to *Letters to the Editor*. [Learn more](#)

December 30, 2019

[Share on Facebook](#)[Share on Twitter](#)[Email to a friend](#)[Print](#)



Gary Moos

I was fishing in the Potomac River when the [flash floods hit](#). Driving home, the rising waters swamped our 2005 Toyota and totaled it.

According to Google maps, my ten-minute fishing commute was about to become four minutes longer. In fact, that flood added so much more. We went car-less, and I got a bike. Now, my trips to the pier include 14 minutes of the road rushing just under my feet, 14 minutes of leg-burning exercise, 14 minutes that I'm closer to the world around me, without the metal and glass cage I used to drive.

Columbia engineering researchers say flash floods are on the rise [due to climate change and various human influences](#). That sounds right to me, but I know this for sure: This flash flood took at least one car off the road, maybe not forever, but definitely for good.

*Gary Moos is a videographer/editor and cofounder of [everylaststory.org](http://everylaststory.org) who lives in Alexandria, VA.*



## Advertisement

This story appears in the **Small Earth Stories** feature series. [View the full series.](#)