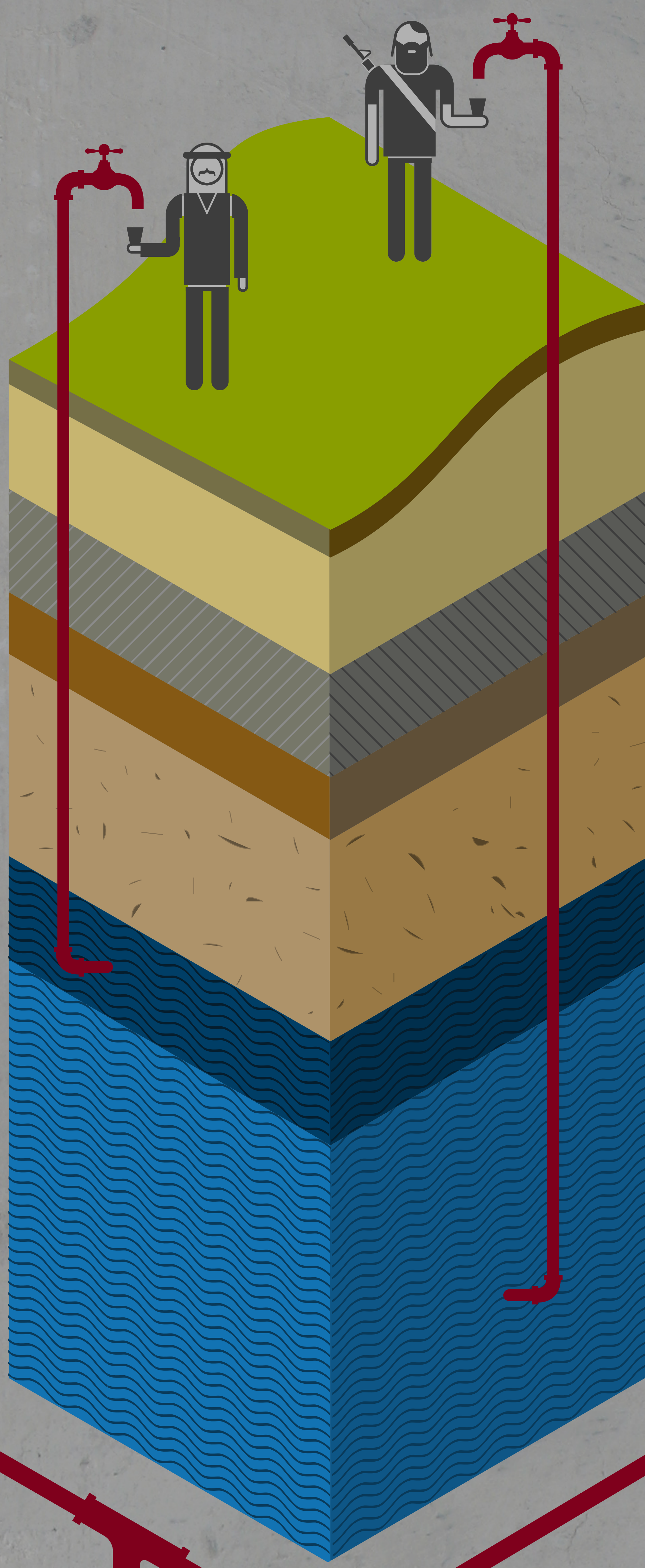


Thirst

Distribution of water resources



A cross section of the West Bank

The main water source Israel and the Palestinians share is the Mountain Aquifer, a system of groundwater reservoirs extending mostly under the West Bank, fed by rain that falls on that area. This source supplies about one-quarter of the water needs of Israel and the Israeli settlements, and almost all the running water to which Palestinians in the West Bank have access.

The Mountain Aquifer's water usage is divided by a ratio of about **80%** for Israel and the settlements and **20%** for Palestinians



Down the drain

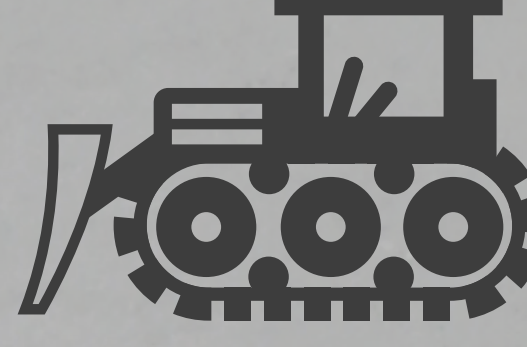
Leakage from pipes due to defective maintenance and old infrastructure results in the loss of one-third of the amount of the water supplied to the West Bank each year.

191,238 Palestinians

live in 134 villages without a running water.
190,000 more live in communities in which the water system is very limited.

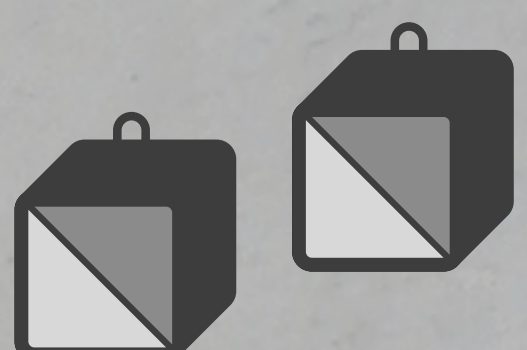
Here is what they do:

Build cisterns to collect rainfall.



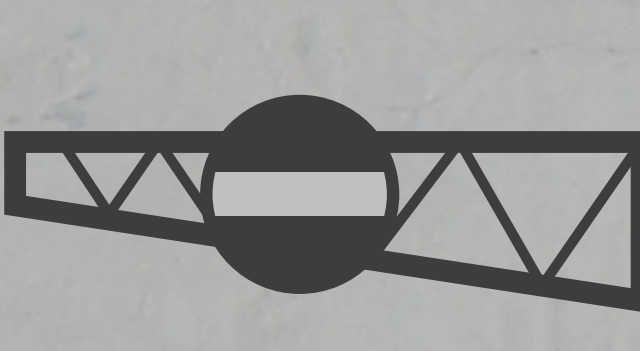
The IDF doesn't approve the construction of new cisterns. Water holes which are built without permits are frequently destroyed or sealed by the army.

Buy water from privately owned water tankers



With 43 percent of the residents living under the poverty line, plus the occasional roadblocks, water purchases are a heavy financial burden.

Use natural local springs



Many springs are deteriorating, others have been seized by settlers. The taking of the Al Qaus spring led to the ongoing, violently repressed demonstrations in the village of Nabi Saleh

Daily water consumption per capita (liters)

Israel and settlements, average

242

The World Health Organization's recommended daily consumption

100

West Bank average

73

Jenin area

44

Tubas area

37

