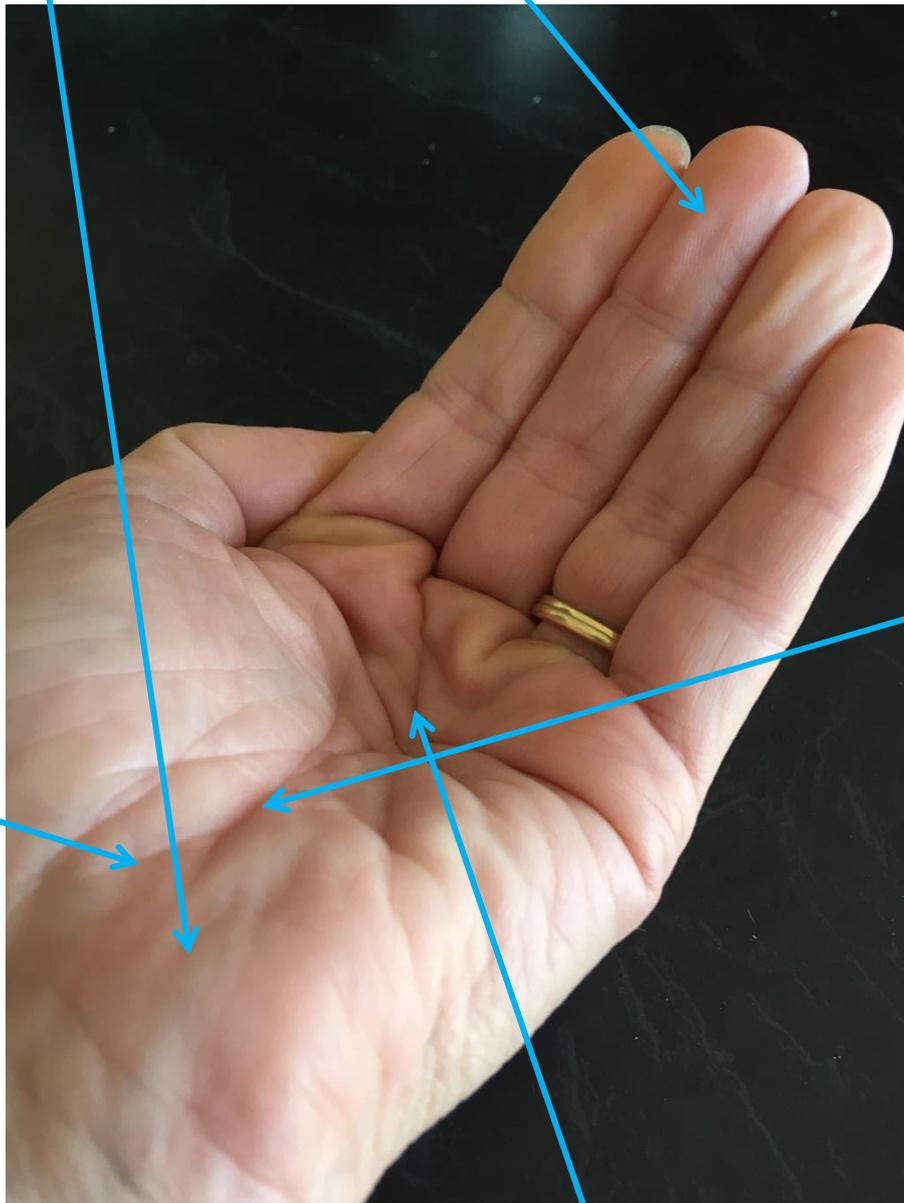


Your hand as a catchment; By cupping your hand you can simulate a catchment and the way it acts as a basin.

1. Rain falls on the highest parts of your catchment; the hills and ranges (your fingers and the heel of your hand) Water that doesn't soak in starts to run across the ground, gravity making it find the next lowest part of the landscape.

2. Water flows as runoff finding the smallest little rivulets, drainage lines and creeks to travel down (the very finest, shallowest wrinkles on your fingers and palm)



3. These small rivulets and creeks join other larger creeks as tributaries (where two wrinkles join in your palm) and continue to make their way across the landscape, gravity helping them wind their way around small hills and find their path to the lowest part of the catchment.

4. Eventually all creeks join into the largest river in your catchment as tributaries. This large river will follow the path of the lowest land through your catchment and be indicated in your hand by the biggest, deepest wrinkle. This river, depending on where you are in Victoria will either terminate when it joins the sea, another major river (often the Murray) or in drier times it may simply end at a network of lakes/swamps/wetlands.