

WaterEarth: Serpentine

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Happy Ostara! The fresh spring air and April showers punctuate a *water-is-life* season. April showers bring May flowers, while water on the [garden] beds will put salad in the bellies!

In the metaphysical crystal healing community, water in minerals is not widely discussed, but is very important to the Earth Systems. It is said^[1], metaphysically, that the green mineral serpentine can be used for “kundalini activation”, “earth healing”, “working with elementals”, “contacting spirit guides”, “cellular regeneration” and “the heart chakra”. I don’t know much about that, but undoubtedly serpentine is a major stone of the deep-Earth water cycle.

The Water Cycle. I am sure you know what I am talking about: ocean, clouds, rain, rivers, ocean. Right? Well, that is only a half-complete picture because it leaves out deep-Earth water that may be 1-10x^[2] more than the oceans. I’m not talking about groundwater: the aquifers of water that home, farm, or municipal wells tap into. Instead, I am talking about water that is *actually trapped* within rocks and minerals!

Water is a beautiful substance. Two positively charged Hydrogen atoms, the most common element in the cosmos, ionically bond with a large, negatively charged Oxygen. Oddly, the ultimate arrangement looks something like a boomerang instead of a straight-line giving rise to water’s magnificent properties:

- Polar molecule: liquid molecules slide past each other, but the solid phase molecules repel each other. Water is unusual in that it expands when it freezes!
- Latent heat: water has a very wide range of the amount of heat it can absorb before changing phase, so water becomes a vessel for transporting heat around the world!
- Solvent: the polar properties give water the ability to break apart other ionic compounds like salt and many others substances.
- Life: water is irreplaceable in photosynthesis as an electron donor.

Serpentine is made by adding 300 liters of hot, silica-rich water to a cubic meter of the mineral olivine (the gemstone peridot is a type olivine). A common reaction in the plate tectonic zone where an oceanic plate subducts beneath another plate. At about 100 km depth in the solid mantle of mostly olivine, water is driven from the subducting plate, lowers the melting temperature of the olivine, and *some* magma forms. In places where magma does not form, the hot water injected into the mantle instead makes the mineral serpentine. Serpentine is GREEN and FULL of water! A spring mineral!

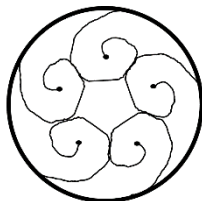
This Spring, work with ThisMagickalEarth--the Crystal World^[3]--by visiting a Serpentine outcrop^[4]!

¹ www.healing-crystals-for-you.com

² Jacobsen and van der Lee, 2006, American Geophysical Union

³ Crystal World, HedraNews, October 2018 archived at ThisMagickalEarth.com/writing

⁴ See ‘Adventure Lithoscraying’ also archived at site



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