

What wetlands do for you

1

Provide clean drinking water

Wetlands act as a filter, improving the quality of our drinking water.

2

Prevent flooding

Wetlands can absorb large amounts of water runoff during a storm.

3

Stabilize the climate

Much like forests, vegetated wetlands capture and store carbon, influencing local weather and contributing to climate stability.

4

Provide a home for animals and plants

Healthy wetlands provide rich habitat for animals and plants and beautiful settings for recreation, relaxation and inspiration.

5

Act as a water bank

Wetlands store water and control the quality of water entering streams, rivers and lakes, a service of vital importance that would otherwise be performed by costly filtration plants.

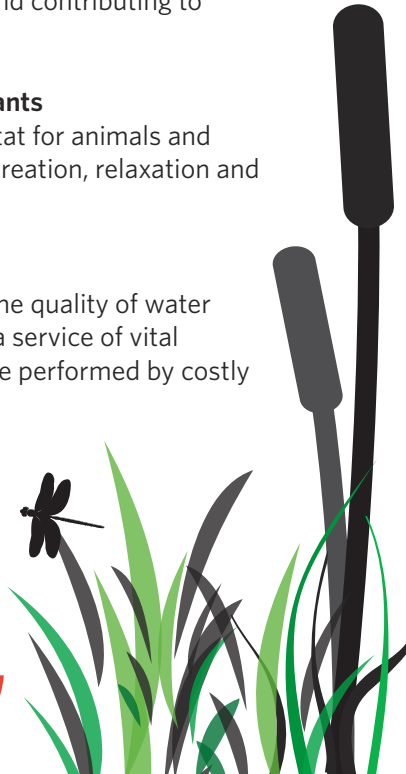
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What you can do for wetlands

1

Enjoy local wetlands with your family and friends

Spending time in nature is good for your health, and the more we appreciate and care about wetlands the more likely we are to help protect them.

2

Maintain natural vegetation around wetlands

Native, water-loving plants keep wetlands healthy. Invasive plants, like knapweed, leafy spurge and oxeye daisy, can displace native plants.

3

Eliminate toxic chemicals

Chemicals in many consumer products can pollute our water and are harmful to fish and wildlife. Garden pesticide-free, avoid anti-bacterial products with triclosan, and personal care products and home cleaners with fragrance.

4

Conserve water

Lawn watering accounts for about 40 per cent of our total household water use. Install a rain barrel, mulch and plant native species. And, clean your driveway and sidewalk with a coarse broom to avoid wasting drinking water.

5

Tell your local government to protect and recover wetlands

Your local government makes important development decisions that could harm wetlands. It also has the power to protect them.

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