

Wetland Benefit Cards

Absorb excess water and prevent flooding.

The soil and plants of wetlands are great for absorbing water. When it rains really hard, all the water that runs-off the streets and hills would run straight into the streams, lakes, and rivers. This excess water often causes flooding to occur. When wetlands are present, they will absorb all the excess water, preventing flooding.



Provide a resting place for migratory birds.

Migratory birds require water, food, and shelter to help them make the long journey from their breeding grounds in the north to their wintering grounds in the south. Wetlands provide all these things! When migrating birds need to stop for a rest, wetlands provide all the necessary habitat requirements.

Provide habitat and homes for wildlife.

Deer, fox, rabbits, geese, song birds, beavers, muskrats, salamanders, frogs, and snakes are just a few of the animals which call wetlands their home. Wetlands are full of good sources of food and shelter. And, there is plenty of water in a wetland. All these things – food, water, and shelter – are crucial to the survival of animals. Wetlands provide a wonderful habitat for many animals.



Filters sediment and debris from the water.

As the water runs-off the streets and hills of the city, it picks up lots of particles such as soil and yard wastes (leaves, grass clippings). All these things need to be filtered out of the water before it reaches the rivers and streams. This is where wetlands come in. Wetlands slow the water down, allowing all these particles to be filtered out.

Neutralize chemicals.

When we fertilize our lawns or apply pesticides to get rid of unwanted insects, some of these chemical end-up in our water. Or, sometimes when our cars leak oil and antifreeze, these chemicals can run-off the streets and into ponds and lakes. When the wetlands slow the water down, the plants and soil particles filter out all these chemicals.

