

# WETLANDS

WHAT ARE THEY GOOD FOR?  
ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING!

**MODERATE FLOODING**  
Wetlands act as a sponge on the landscape soaking up excess stormwater, preventing it from swelling our streams and rivers.

**FILTERING POLLUTION**  
Wetlands are great for turning excess nutrients into standing plants, thus preventing the pollution from turning our streams and lakes pea soup green with algae and out of control plants.

**WILDLIFE HABITAT**  
Ducks, frogs, salamanders, deer, song birds, fish! You name the animal and they probably use and depend on wetlands at some point during the year!

**GROUNDWATER RECHARGE**  
By filtering water and soaking it up like a sponge, wetlands recharge our groundwater supplies with fresh water. Wetlands can also lessen the effects of drought conditions by storing water from the wet portions of the year.

JOIN  
TEAM HELLBENDER



Illustrations by  
Brian Martone

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& KIDS!

Your class  
can enter the  
**TEAM HELLBENDER CHALLENGE**  
and win fabulous prizes!!!  
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for more information.



Wetlands are the second most ecologically diverse ecosystem on the earth. Second only to the rainforests! Wetlands are often misunderstood and sometimes feared, however, they are our best defense for dealing with many serious environmental and economic problems.

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