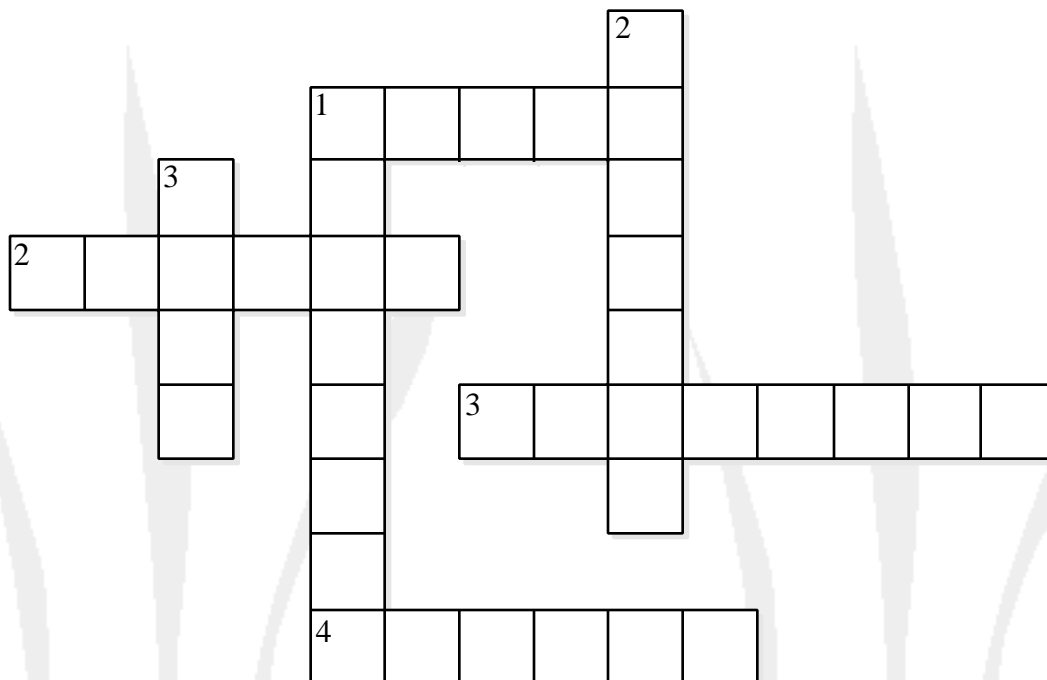


Wetlands: Nature's Wonder

Are there any swampy areas in your neighborhood? Most likely these are called wetlands and they play an important role to the environment. There are many reasons why wetlands are important:

1. Wetlands contain various types of plants and animals. Wetlands can be compared to tropical rain forests and coral reefs in the types of plants and animals that live there.
2. Wetlands filter out many pollutants found in water. So, wetlands can make water cleaner.
3. Wetlands act like a sponge by storing water when it rains. This reduces flooding.
4. Wetlands give people a place to hike, fish and enjoy wildlife.



Across

1. Wetlands can improve _____ quality.
2. Wetlands are vital to the survival of various _____ and animals.
3. Destroying wetlands can lead to increased _____.
4. _____, marshes and bogs are types of wetlands.

Down

1. Michigan has lost over 70% of its original _____.
2. Wetlands can be used to protect shorelines from _____.
3. The government has passed _____ to protect wetlands.

