



Wetlands and Climate Change

Did you know?

Wetlands play an essential role in the fight against climate change. These important ecosystems address climate change and benefit local communities and the world in numerous ways, including:

Carbon Capture

Wetlands are a carbon sink meaning they absorb and hold in more carbon than they release into the atmosphere. New Jersey's wetlands absorbed **8.1 million** metric tons of CO₂ equivalent in 2019 alone.

Heat Reduction

Studies have shown that wetlands can reduce air temperatures in the summer by **up to 5 °F**. This can help keep communities cooler in the summer heat!

Flood Reduction

A wetland can store about 3-acre feet (3 acres covered in water 1 foot deep) or about **1 million gallons of water per acre** of wetland, protecting communities from flooding caused by climate change.

Learn more about wetlands at: <https://dep.nj.gov/wlm/lrp/wetlands/>.



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