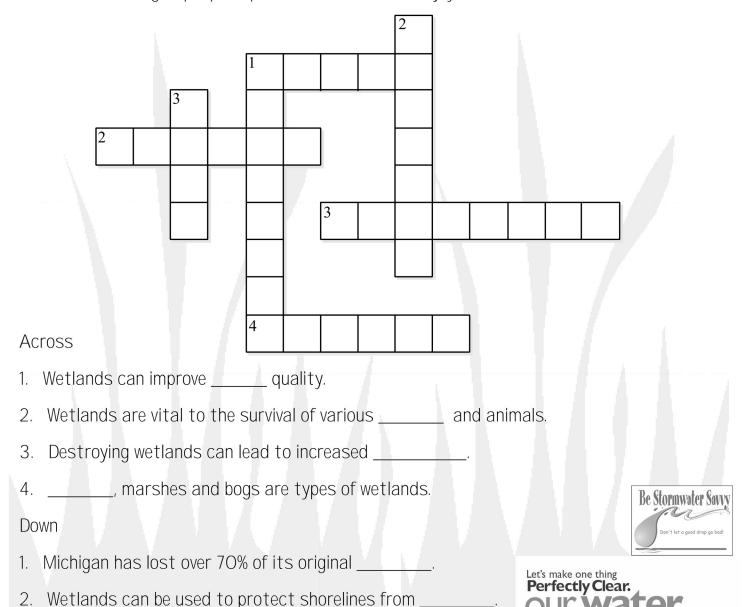
Wetlands: Nature's Wonder

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.

The government has passed _____ to protect wetlands.



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