

# ADOPT A WETLAND TODAY!

Please detach and submit to IBEC

Yes, I would like to register for the Adopt-A-Wetland program

Name:.....

Address:.....

.....

Phone Number:.....

Email Address:.....

Name and location of my wetland:

.....

.....



## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

For further information on the Adopt-A-Wetland program, please contact the Indian Bay Ecosystem Corporation (IBEC)

General Delivery  
Indian Bay, NL  
A0G 2V0

Phone: 709-522-3222  
Fax: 709-522-3223  
Email:  
ibec@eastlink.ca



Or visit us online at  
[www.indianbayecosystem.com](http://www.indianbayecosystem.com)

Thanks to our partner



# INDIAN BAY ECOSYSTEM CORPORATION



# ADOPT-A-WETLAND

## What Is The Adopt-A-Wetland Program?

The Adopt-A-Wetland Program is part of a habitat enhancement and awareness program established by the Indian Bay Ecosystem Corporation (IBEC). The goal of this program is to enhance the monitoring, protection and restoration of wetland habitats in the Bonavista North Region.

## What Are Wetlands?

Wetlands are areas of relatively flat ground where the land surface is saturated with water during all or part of the year. This includes;

**Marshes:** Shallow water wetlands (less than 3' deep) which are usually wet, but not stagnant.

**Bogs:** Waterlogged and peat filled areas with stagnant, brown, acidic water.

**Fens:** Similar to bogs, however there is at least a moderate flow of fresh water through the system, creating a less stagnant environment.

**Swamps:** Wetlands where there is open surface water, and are often characterized by trees and other woody shrubs.

Wetlands are important because they are nature's water filters. They collect and store runoff, reduce downstream flooding and erosion, clean and purify water, recharge groundwater zones, and provide unique habitats for plants and animals.

## What Is Happening To Our Wetlands?

Wetland ecosystems are being threatened worldwide. The lack of appreciation for these habitats has resulted in their destruction through infrastructural development and poor management practices. In Canada alone, up to 70 per cent of wetlands have been lost in settlement areas.



Human activities cause wetland degradation and loss by changing water quality, quantity, and flow rates for developmental, industrial and agricultural projects. As a result of disturbance and the introduction of non-native species, pollutant outputs have increased and species compositions have begun to change.

Other sources of degradation are a result of recreational activities such as driving ATVs and other vehicles through wetlands.

Steps to preventing wetland loss and degradation begin with increasing the appreciation of these important unique systems.

## What Can be Done In Adopted Wetlands?

The Adopt-A-Wetland Program is open to groups and individuals. Interested parties can either select a wetland that is important to them or let IBEC help match them with one of their priority sites for adoption in the area.

Activities you can do for your adopted wetland include:

- ◆ Cleanups
- ◆ Plant and animal surveys
- ◆ Installing bird nesting boxes
- ◆ Water quality monitoring
- ◆ Habitat enhancement projects
- ◆ Invasive species removal
- ◆ Wetland replanting & restoration
- ◆ Any observed poaching of wildlife should be reported to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS(8477) immediately.

Your input and observations are valuable and will be used to design future restoration projects at IBEC

