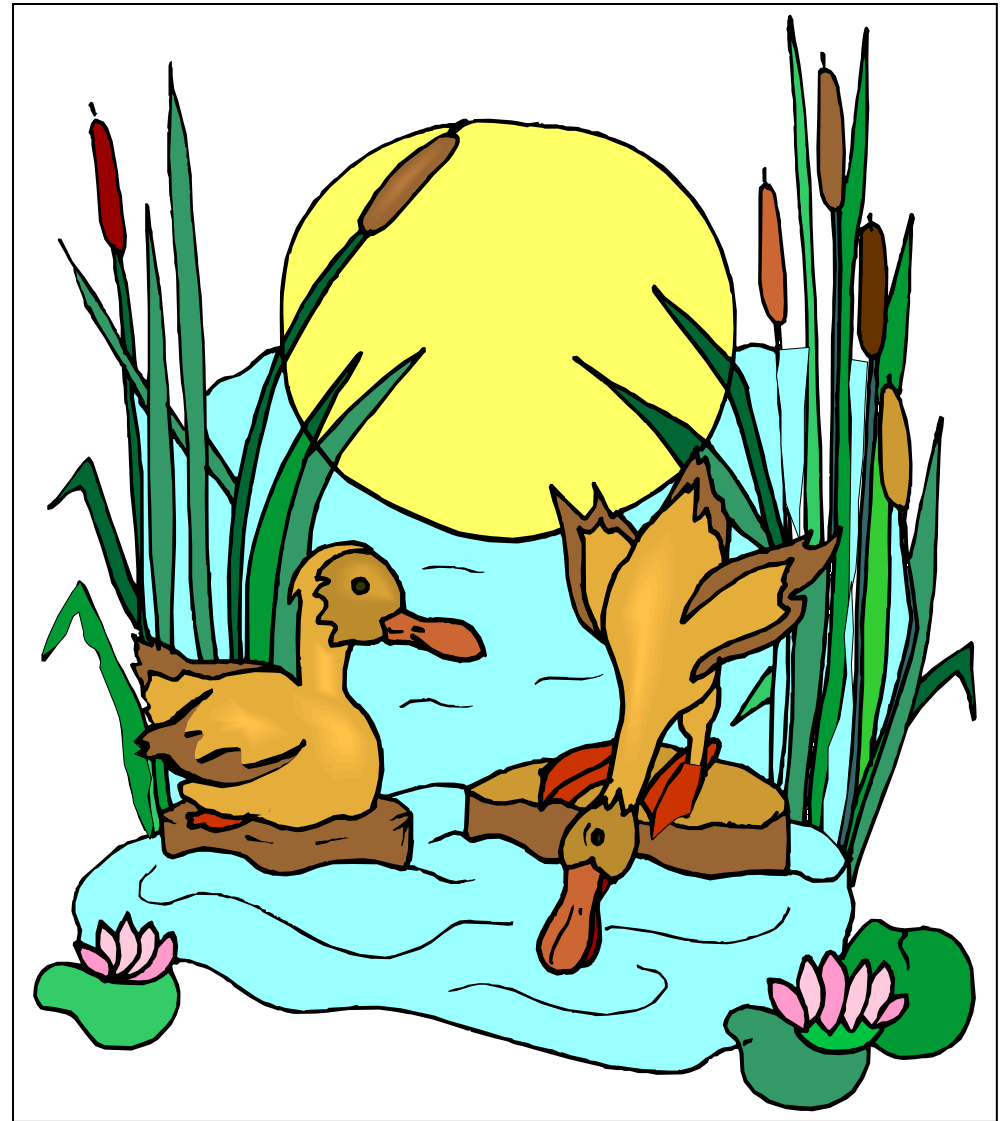


Wetlands Fact Sheet

- Wetlands are places where water is on or near the ground surface for part or all of the time.
- Wetlands store water like tubs or sponges, slowly letting the water out.
- According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, wetlands are either marshes, swamps, bogs or fens.
- Wetlands provide homes for thousands of species of plants and animals.
- Since 1780, Michigan has lost 50 percent of its wetlands.

The mission of the MRWA is to preserve, protect and enhance the natural, historic and cultural resources of the Muskegon River Watershed through educational and scientific initiatives, while supporting positive economic development, agricultural and quality of life initiatives of organizations working in the river watershed.



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