

Wetlands and Water

OUR EXISTENCE RELIES ON WATER

- Wetlands hold and provide most of our freshwater.
 - They naturally filter pollutants, leaving water we can safely drink.
- We use more water than nature can replenish.
 - Less than **1%** of freshwater is usable.
 - Our water use increased sixfold in **100 years** and rises **1%** annually.
 - Almost all global freshwater sources are compromised: **82%** of the world's population is exposed to high levels of pollution in their water supply.
- Urban and water resource planning that incorporates wetlands and their benefits delivers improved health and wellbeing for city residents.
 - We could have enough water if we better value and manage wetlands and water – through protection, restoration and wise use.

