

# New York's Wetlands

Do You Want This?



*Many New York wetlands like the Klydel wetland in North Tonawanda, NY (shown above) are not fully protected by state or federal law.*

Or This?



*This photo of the backyard of a North Tonawanda, NY home, built in a portion of the Klydel wetland, shows why it's better to preserve wetlands than to build in them.*

Wetlands store flood water and release it slowly. In this way wetlands function to:

- ⇒ ensure that homes are not flooded
- ⇒ filter out pollutants, cleaning our drinking water sources and streams
- ⇒ replenish the groundwater that many families, farms, and communities rely on for water supplies
- ⇒ maintain adequate flows in our waterways to provide habitat for fish and other wildlife

Wetlands are a vital resource to all New Yorkers, but they face a new threat.

Reduced federal protection and a weak state law mean that many of New York's wetlands are no longer protected from being filled or drained.

To ensure that wetlands continue to protect our drinking water and support our fish and wildlife, the New York State Legislature and Governor Pataki need to act to strengthen New York's law by passing A.7905-a/S.4480-a: The Clean Water Protection/Flood Prevention Act.

You Can Help Protect New York's Wetlands

The New York State Assembly has passed A.7905-a, but the State Senate went on recess without taking action on S.4480-a.



**Please call Senator Joseph Bruno, Majority Leader of the State Senate, at (518) 455-3191 and Governor George Pataki at (518) 474-8390. Let them know that it is critical for the State Senate to Pass S.4480-a when the Senate returns to Albany.**

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For more information contact Sierra Club – Atlantic Chapter at (518) 426-9144.

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