



BEAVER Benefits



As a keystone species, beaver created wetland habitats provide valuable, **FREE**, ecosystem services for humans, by:



Acting as “**Earth’s Kidneys**,” cleaning and purifying stream water, removing silt and contaminants, including road salt and nitrates.



Preventing the spread of wildfires through natural fuel breaks and providing a safe haven for wildlife.



Holding water on the landscape for slow, gradual release, decreasing damage from floods, reducing bank erosion, mitigating effects of drought and replenishing aquifers.



Providing recreational activities, from salmon and trout fishing to bird-watching by creating ideal habitats for many species of fish, songbird, waterfowl and other wildlife.



Cleaning up fallen trees, saving municipalities and landowners the cost for removal.



Allowing grasses, saplings and other new vegetation to grow where trees on shore are cut down.



Regulating and maintaining water levels in lakes, rivers and ponds.



Absorbing and capturing greenhouse gases.



BEAVER Facts



Beavers CANNOT climb trees. Landowners have many tools at their disposal to prevent beaver damage, such as wire tree wrap.



Beavers DO NOT eat fish. Beavers are herbivores. They eat various water-based plants, leaves, twigs and the bark of trees.



Beavers are “self-regulating,” meaning that populations WILL NOT grow exponentially. Effective non-lethal alternatives exist for beaver conflicts, like flow devices to protect culverts and pond levelers. **Lethal traps are only a short-term solution, are inhumane, and are not selective, often killing other wildlife and pets, or even injuring humans.**