

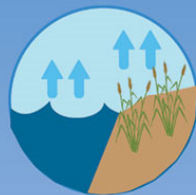


# LIVING SHORELINES SUPPORT RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

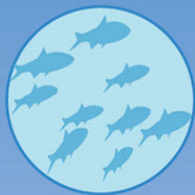
Living shorelines use plants or other natural elements—sometimes in combination with harder shoreline structures—to stabilize estuarine coasts, bays, and tributaries.



**One square mile** of salt marsh stores the carbon equivalent of **76,000 gal of gas** annually.



Marshes trap sediments from tidal waters, allowing them to **grow in elevation** as sea level rises.



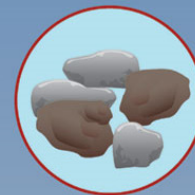
Living shorelines improve **water quality**, provide fisheries **habitat**, increase **biodiversity**, and promote **recreation**.



Marshes and oyster reefs act as natural **barriers** to waves. **15 ft** of marsh can **absorb 50%** of incoming wave energy.



Living shorelines are **more resilient** against storms than bulkheads.



**33%** of shorelines in the U.S. will be **hardened** by **2100**, decreasing fisheries habitat and biodiversity.



Hard shoreline structures like **bulkheads** prevent natural marsh migration and may create seaward **erosion**.

