

Ecosystem Services

What can ecosystems do for us?

What are ecosystem services?

- Ecosystem Services are the processes by which the environment produces resources that we often take for granted such as clean water, timber, and habitat for fisheries, and pollination of native and agricultural plants.

Trees help to cool surrounding areas by providing shade and fresh, cooler air through transpiration

They also can provide a wind break during storms and decrease erosion during flooding



Moderate weather extremes and their impacts

pollinate crops and natural vegetation

Bees and other pollinators help
maintain biodiversity and help to
fertilize crops that wouldn't
otherwise grow without their
help

Some Examples: Apples,
Almonds, Blueberries, Cherries,
Avocados, Cucumbers, Onions,
Grapefruit, Oranges and
Pumpkins



Wetlands can remove 20 to 60%
of metals
in the water, trap and retain 80
to 90% of sediment
from runoff and eliminate 70 to
90% of entering
nitrogen.

detoxify and
decompose
wastes



Brainstorm

What other ecosystem services can you think of?

Make a list at your table.

