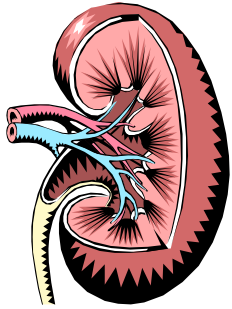


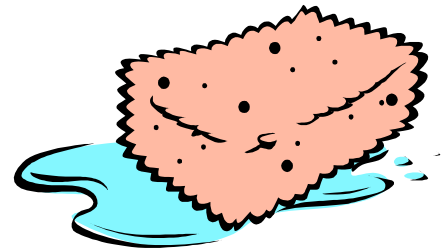


The Importance of Wetlands



Like kidneys, wetlands purify contaminants that run off the land.

This improves water quality in streams.



Like a sponge, wetlands soak up floodwaters & release water to streams during dry spells.

This is good for stream life and people's assets that are prone to flood damage.



Like a 'fountain of life', wetlands are host to a rich biodiversity



Waiwheo flax swamp