

## HYDROPOLY DECISION CARDS

**DECISIONS! DECISIONS!**

You have inherited \$500,000! Now you can buy land and build your dream home. You narrow your choices down to two properties. One (A) lies right along the shores of beautiful Crystal Lake; the other (B) is nestled in a quiet upland forest. Both properties cost the same. Which will you choose?

**CONSEQUENCES**

(A) Building that close to the water will surely harm or destroy wetlands! Move back three spaces. (B) If you cut down only enough trees to make room for the house, you will harm less natural habitat than you would in (A). Move ahead three spaces.

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You live in a bustling city that lies near the Clinton River. It is election day for a new state governor. Candidate A promises increased economic growth and more jobs. He supports the construction of a huge new shopping mall near the river. Candidate B proposes to increase economic growth by promoting travel and recreation. He also wants to build a mall in an abandoned building near a major highway. Will you vote for A or B?

**CONSEQUENCES**

(A) Building close to the Clinton River will surely harm or destroy wetlands. The city and state do not seem to be badly in need or growth and can make money in other ways. Move back three spaces. (B) It makes sense to build in an area that is already developed, keeping wetlands intact so they can add to the economy in other ways. Move ahead three spaces.

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You are a kindhearted person who donates \$200 each year to a charity or good cause. You have been asked to give money to either (A) a conservation organization that helps protect wetlands worldwide, or (B) a local Boy Scout troop. If you choose A, you will be helping to preserve wetlands and protect wildlife all over the world. If you choose B, you can ask the Scouts to use the money to clean up and restore a small wetland in your community. Which will you choose?

**CONSEQUENCES**

Both choices have their merits and positive results. Move ahead one space.

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You are a farmer who is getting older and thinking about retiring. Your land was once a Great Lakes wetland (a shallow area that stayed very wet throughout the spring). If you stop plowing the land, it will turn into a wetland again. You need to sell your land to earn retirement money. You are offered money from (A) someone who will develop the land for housing or business, and (B) a conservation organization that will keep the land as a wetland preserve, providing you with a tax break. The developer offers you twice as much money. Which will you choose?

**CONSEQUENCES**

(A) Move back two spaces. (B) Move ahead three spaces.

**HYDROPOLY DECISION CARDS****DECISIONS! DECISIONS!**

You are a town zoning officer. You decide the number and type of places that can be built in your Great Lakes area. One of only a few wetlands in the town is due for rezoning. The townspeople are encouraging you to vote in one of two ways on the zoning: (A) zone the area for preservation. Which will you choose?; (B) allow housing for the poor to be built there (this housing is badly needed)

**CONSEQUENCES**

(A) With so few wetlands in town, too many benefits would be lost by destroying the site in question. Move ahead two spaces. (B) The housing is needed, but it can be built in another location. The wetland is needed for good water quality. Move back two spaces.

**HYDROPOLY DECISION CARDS****DECISIONS! DECISIONS!**

You are a very wealthy landowner who is about to build a housing development that will make you even richer! The land contains some Lake. St. Clair and Clinton River wetlands that would be destroyed by the project. You can (A) cancel the project, or (B) go to great expense to build new wetlands nearby to replace the one that will be destroyed. Which will you choose?

**CONSEQUENCES**

(A) Move ahead three spaces. (B) Move ahead one space. The plan to replace the wetland is a decent choice, but the costs (money and habitat) may outweigh the benefits. Natural wetlands are likely to be healthier.

**HYDROPOLY DECISION CARDS****DECISIONS! DECISIONS!**

You are a farmer. You own 100 acres near the Kalamazoo River, which you plant in corn. Times are tough and you and your spouse are expecting a child. In the past, you have always left a strip of land along the waterway unplowed. The natural growth of the aquatic plants helps keep the water clean and provides habitat for many animals. But if you planted corn there instead, you would have about 15 extra acres of crops. Will you plow it this year (A) or not (B)?

**CONSEQUENCES**

(A) Move back three spaces.  
(B) Move ahead 4 spaces. That is a tough decision!

**HYDROPOLY DECISION CARDS****DECISIONS! DECISIONS!**

Today is Saturday, and you have tickets to a very cool outdoor concert that you have been looking forward to for months. The tickets cost you a month's allowance, but it is worth it. Your little brother just came in and told you about the Lake Gogebic wetland clean-up day near his school. They plan to pick up trash and plant new plants all around the area. He is very excited and wants you to come and help, since they need lots of people to get the work done. If you go, you will miss the concert. Where will you go? (A) With your little brother; (B) to the concert.

**CONSEQUENCES**

(A) What a sacrifice! Move ahead three spaces. (B) Move back one space.

## HYDROPOLY DECISION CARDS

### DECISIONS! DECISIONS!

You work for the state's highway department. A new road being built will destroy six acres of Great Lakes coasts and wetlands. To get the permit to build the road, the department had to promise to replace the wetlands. You are in charge of hiring a company to do the work, and you must choose between two companies. The expensive one guarantees that the new wetlands will survive; the cheaper one does not, but thinks their wetland will be good. Will you (A) save state money and take a chance on the wetlands' survival or (B) spend more and get the guarantee?

### CONSEQUENCES

(A) Move back four spaces. (B) Move ahead three spaces.

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You have designed your dream house, and you are very proud of it. The plans show a beautiful front that faces a quiet street and a garage in the back with a long driveway around to it. There are Au Sable River wetlands in your backyard that will have to be filled in for the driveway and garage. Will you (A) put the garage and a shorter driveway in front of the house? (This will be cheaper, but will wreck your design and obstruct the view of the front of your house.) or (B) build the house as planned.

### CONSEQUENCES

(A) Move ahead two spaces. (B) Move back two spaces.