



Natural & Nature-Based Features

Forested Wetlands



Description

Forested wetlands are covered by trees greater than 20 feet tall. Wetlands with trees are also called swamps. These features occur in both tidal and non-tidal settings with some forests having both characteristics. Forested wetlands provide storm and flood mitigation, cleaner water, economic gains, and cultural traditions as ecosystem service benefits.

Multiple Benefits

- * Intercept and slowly release rainfall
- * Absorb and store floodwaters
- * Intercept air pollution
- * Nitrogen, phosphorus & sediment capture
- * Regulate stream and air temperatures
- * Carbon storage
- * Fish & animal habitat

Forested Wetlands Restoration Tips

- * Protect natural wetlands with surrounding upland buffer
- * Restore natural hydrology & eliminate drainage
- * Protect & restore natural vegetation
- * Provide layers of plant height between tree canopy & ground
- * Allow leaves & sticks to remain for healthy soil & infiltration
- * Remove & control invasive plants
- * Consult with arborist about tree health and care

Resources

[CBP Nontidal Wetland Restoration Reference Guide](#)

[Nontidal Wetland BMPs in the Phase 6 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model](#)



Water Quality BMPs

Nontidal Wetland Restoration (Ag)
Nontidal Wetland Restoration - Enhancement
Nontidal Wetland Restoration - Rehabilitation
Nontidal Wetlands Creation (Ag)
Urban and Non-Urban (Ag)
Stream Restoration
Agricultural and Soil Conservation
Constructed Wetlands (Urban)



Community Rating System Credit Potential

Forested Wetlands in Special Flood Hazard Areas

Open Space Preservation development must be prohibited

Natural Functions Open Space 1 undeveloped marsh or restored to natural state

Natural Functions Open Space 4 undeveloped or restored marsh in a connected network of wetlands as shown in approved plan

Natural Shoreline Protection natural marsh where local policy prohibits shoreline armoring or other interventions that constrain natural processes

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