

# Wetlands



## What is considered wetland?

Land with all three of the following:

1. Primarily wet soils
2. Supportive of wetland plants
3. Possessing wetland characteristics

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) can make a wetlands determination for existing land and any land you plan on purchasing.

## Staying Compliant to Wetland Regulation

The following activities could jeopardize participation in USDA benefits, commodity programs and conservation programs:

- Clearing forested wetland
- Filling, excavating or leveling
- dredging wetland
- Stump removal
- Creating new drainage

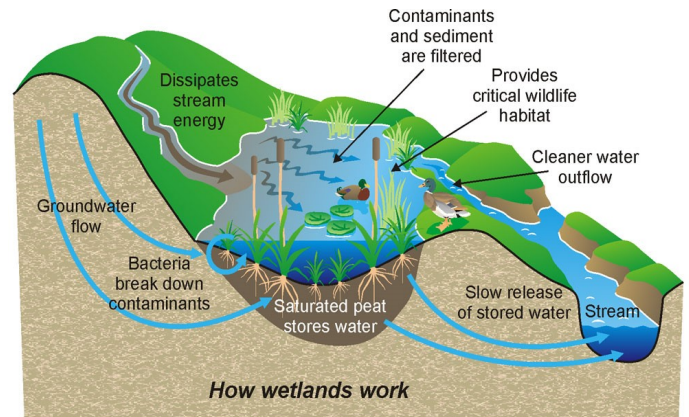


# Maximizing Your Land Use

## Wetland Determination

Land that has been used for farming can continue to be used but not drained. Under the “no net loss” policy the following land classifications affect use:

- **Prior Converted**— Land can have drainage management and improvements
- **Farmed Wetland**— Existing drainage improvements can be maintained but no new improvements can be made
- **Wetland**— Drainage improvements cannot be made or maintained



## Farm Management Plan

We can help to make a farm management plan to maximize land use while staying in compliance.

- **Best Management Practices**— help ensure compliance with environmental laws and maintain economic strength
- **Drainage and Growing Improvements**— aid in identifying potential areas of improvement and cost share programs



Contact a Conservation District Resource Specialist for assistance. We can meet you on your farm or at our office.

**No Charge. Non Regulatory. Practical Solutions.**

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