



**THE ALLIANCE FOR THE CHESAPEAKE BAY
AND THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

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RESTORING VIRGINIA'S WETLANDS

A CITIZEN'S TOOLKIT

STACEY MOULDS, HADLEY MILLIKEN, JENNIFER SIDLECK AND BRENDA WINN

GRAPHIC DESIGN BY LAUREN COLEMAN

You Are Invited

All across Virginia, wetlands are serving many important functions. They promote water recharge in streams and rivers, provide vital wildlife habitat, support biodiversity, help cleanse polluted waters, help alleviate flooding and provide a variety of other important biological functions. Healthy wetlands greatly contribute to a healthy environment.

You are invited to learn more about Virginia's wealth of wetlands and help make them as pristine and plentiful as they can be for the health of the environment, our aesthetic enjoyment, and educational opportunities, for current as well as future generations. Take a look inside and contribute to Virginia's wetlands.

***So the time is now to face what's at hand
To clean up the water and clean up the land
And we owe it to the future to preserve and protect
The gift that we have
It's not ours to neglect***

~Don Shappelle from the song, "Chesapeake Dream"

Forward

The purpose of "Restoring Virginia's Wetlands – A Citizen's ToolKit" is to provide the Citizens of Virginia with information concerning wetlands and to promote the voluntary protection, enhancement, restoration and creation of wetlands on private as well as public lands within the Commonwealth. This ToolKit provides information to Virginia's landowners, both private and public, on the status of wetlands, various options for the use and management of their wetlands, current regulatory protection as well as voluntary efforts, and technical and financial resources for protection, enhancement, restoration and creation projects. This ToolKit guides you through the background information necessary to understand wetland functions and values. Included in this ToolKit are the basics regarding wetland identification, types and classification as well as types of wetland monitoring to learn more about wetlands.

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Disclaimer

Although this project was funded through the EPA, it does not necessarily reflect the opinion, position or policy of the EPA or the DEQ. The user of this ToolKit is responsible for keeping up to date with changes in the Federal, state and local permit regulations and requirements, scientific literature, web page locations or resource information provided in this ToolKit.

*Photos: Front cover: Green Heron at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens, Richmond VA – photograph by Stacey Moulds.
Back Cover: Marsh Periwinkle snails in salt marsh on Virginia's Eastern Shore – Photograph by Mara DAVIS,
freelance photographer www.marafoto.com.*

Table of Contents

Section 1: Wetlands 101

- 1 Introduction to Wetlands
- 1 What is a Wetland?
- 3 What Makes it a Wetland? A more in depth look at wetland hydrology, soils, vegetation and animals
- 6 How can I tell if my site is a wetland?
- 7 Wetland Functions and Values

Section 2: Getting to Know Virginia's Wetlands

- 9 Our Commonwealth's Wetlands: a "Wealth" of variety, including some that are not that "Common"
- 15 "A Wetland By Any Other Name" – Understanding the NWI Wetland Classification System
- 15 Wetlands to See, Wildlife to Meet – Visiting Virginia's Public Wetlands

Section 3: What's Going On with Virginia's Wetlands?

- 19 How Are Our Wetlands Doing? Status and Trends of Virginia's Wetlands
- 23 How are Virginia Wetlands Protected? Regulations to Ensure "No Net Loss"
- 27 Voluntary Efforts for "Net Gain" of Wetlands in Virginia

Section 4: Taking Action! Voluntary Wetland Activities

- 29 Take Action! Basic Ways to help
- 30 Hands on Voluntary Wetland Activities: Introducing Protection, Enhancement, Creation and Restoration
- 35 Informational Tools for Targeting Potential Sites for Voluntary Wetland Activities
- 41 Getting Help – Resources for Financial and Technical Assistance
- 49 Wetland Permitting and Delineations – Information for Voluntary Wetland Activities
- 54 Case Studies

Section 5: Volunteer-Based Wetland Monitoring

- 59 Introduction to Monitoring Wetlands
- 61 Getting to Know Your Wetland: Visual-Based Wetland Monitoring
- 62 Hands-On Wetland Monitoring
- 64 Monitoring Resources for Visual and Hands-On Wetland Monitoring

67 Acronyms and Abbreviations

69 Glossary

73 Literature Cited

76 Additional Acknowledgements
