

Wetland Restoration

Description

Most wetland restoration work involves the use of small structures to hold water in an area where drainage, filling, or other methods were previously used to remove nature wetland characteristics. Surface drains and subsurface tile lines may be plugged. Concrete and earthen structures – usually low dikes or ditch plugs – are installed to retain water and maintain a specified water level. In some instances, adjustable outlets allow the landowner to fluctuate the water level during different seasons.

Benefits

- Wetlands help improve water quality by intercepting surface runoff, trapping sediment, and processing nutrients and organic wastes before they reach open water.
- Wetlands store water temporarily, allowing it to percolate slowly into the ground, evaporate, or be absorbed by the roots of wetland plants. This temporary storage reduces peak water flows after storms.
- Wetlands provide habitat for waterfowl and many other species of wildlife.