

Wetlands Are Wonderful!



What is a wetland? A wetland is an area of land that is saturated with water permanently or seasonally. They come in many shapes and forms, so no two wetlands are exactly alike. You may also hear them called by names like estuaries, marshes, and swamps.

Wetlands provide many important benefits. They act as natural “sponges” during rain events. They prevent erosion by stabilizing shorelines, while the diverse vegetation naturally helps to treat polluted runoff before it can wash into local waterways.

Wetlands also supply shelter and food for local wildlife, including many popular shellfish and fish species. Many people also enjoy their valuable recreational opportunities, including fishing, birdwatching, and kayaking.

CITY OF WILMINGTON
STORMWATER SERVICES



Help support our local wetlands in Bradley and Hewletts Creeks:



Don't be a Litterbug

Litter is human-created and harmful to wetland wildlife. Be a part of the solution and clean up litter when you see it!



Limit Use of Fertilizers and Pesticides

Pesticides can harm aquatic wildlife and excess fertilizer can lead to harmful algal blooms in waterways.



Avoid Non-Native Plants

Non-native plants can spread to wetland areas and crowd out native plants that wetland wildlife need for food and shelter.

Want to learn more? Visit J.E.L. Wade Park in the Hewletts Creek Watershed to see a constructed wetland in action!



www.healourwaterways.org



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Heal Our Waterways



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