

Acronyms and Abbreviations

Note- this list does not include abbreviations that are listed only in the Financial and Technical Assistance Tables (in *Getting Help*, Section Four), in *Monitoring Resources for Visual and Hands-On Wetland Monitoring* (Section 5) or in *Literature Cited*.

APFO

Aerial Photography Field Office

Alliance

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

CBF

Chesapeake Bay Program

CBLAD

Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance Department

CBP

Chesapeake Bay Foundation

CERCLIS

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System

Corps

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

CZMA

Coastal Zone Management Act

DCR

Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation

DACS

Virginia Department of Consumer Services

DEM

Digital Elevation Models

DEQ

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

DGIF

Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries

DHR

Virginia Department of Historic Resources

DLG

Digital Line Graphs

DMME

Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy

DMR

Division of Mineral Resources

DOC

Department of Commerce

DOQ

Digital Orthophoto Quadrangles

DRG
Digital Raster Graphics

DU
Ducks Unlimited

ELI
Environmental Law Institute

EPA
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

ERP
Elizabeth River Project

FOBF
Friends of Bandy Field

FSA
Farm Service Agency

FWS
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

GIS
geographic information systems

HEP
Habitat Evaluation Procedure

JPA
Joint Permit Application

LWB
Local Wetland Board

NCV
Natural Communities of Virginia

NHP
Virginia Natural Heritage Program

ND
No Date

NED
National Elevation Data

NERR
National Estuarine Research Reserve

NOAA
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

NRCS
Natural Resources Conservation Service

NRFS
Natural Resources Fact Sheet

NWI
National Wetlands Inventory

NWP
Nationwide Permit

PPT
Parts Per Thousand

QAPP
Quality Assurance Project Plan

RMA
Resource Management Area

RPA
Resource Protection Areas

SAV
Submerged Aquatic Vegetation

TCF
The Conservation Fund

TNC
The Nature Conservancy

TRI
Toxic Release Inventory

TU CGIS
Towson University Center for Geographical Informational Sciences

USDA
U.S. Department of Agriculture

USGS
Geological Survey

VAFWIS
Virginia Fish and Wildlife Information Service

VCP
Virginia Coastal Program

VDH
Virginia Department of Health

VDOT
Virginia Department of Transportation

VIMS
Virginia Institute of Marine Science

VMRC
Virginia Marine Resources Commission

VPDES
Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

VWP
Virginia Water Protection

Glossary

Note: The definitions in this Glossary are for the purposes of this ToolKit. Some glossary words may have varied or more technical definitions than those used here.

A

Anaerobic Condition

Condition resulting from little or no oxygen

B

Bioassessment

A relatively new term used to describe a way of performing a more rapid biological assessment rather than a comprehensive assessment

Brackish

Water that contains some salt, but less than seawater; a mixture of fresh and saltwater typically found in estuarine areas

Bottomland Forest

Low lying forested wetland between drier upland hardwood forests and a wetter river floodplain

Buffer Zone

The area of land next to a body of water or wetland, where activities such as construction are restricted or plants are established in order to protect water or water quality

C

Compensatory Mitigation

Required replacing or restoring of wetlands to compensate for wetland loss in another area

Conservation Easement

A legally binding and permanent deed to a property, tailored so that the land's unique characteristics are protected

Cost Share

Resources used to match other external funding resources

Creation

The establishment of a wetland in an area where one did not formerly exist. Examples include establishing a wetland on an upland site and the filling a pond to produce a wetland

D

Delineation

The process of defining boundaries, see wetland delineation

Discharge

The outflow of water or to release of something from one place to another

E

Emergent Vegetation

Plants with roots and part of the stem submerged below water level, but the rest of the plant is above water

Enhancement

Increasing one or more functions or values of an existing wetland or other aquatic resource

Evapotranspiration

A term that includes water discharged to the atmosphere as a result of evaporation from the soil and surface-water bodies and by plant transpiration

Estuarine

Found or formed in an estuary

Estuary

Semi-enclosed coastal waterbodies that are affected by both tides as well as freshwater

F

Fluvaquents

Soils formed from frequent flooding, often found in floodplains

Foundation

An organization or institution with internal funding often distributed in grants or monetary gifts

Freshwater

Water containing few salts (usually less than 0.5ppt)

G

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

A type of computer system that can capture, store, analyze and display information geographically, or according to location

Gleying

The process by which mineral soils become black, gray or greenish-bluish gray in appearance or tint from the reduction of iron caused by the presence of water in the soil

Grant

Monetary gift given to an organization in exchange for a service

Grantee

Person or organization receiving the grant

Grantor

Person or organization supplying the grant

H

Hydric Soils

Soils that form from the lack of oxygen present due to the presence of water at or below the soil surface

Hydrology

Describes the movement and storage of water within an area

Hydroperiod

Fluctuations in water level over time often defined by the frequency and duration of wetness

Hydrophytes

A plant that is adapted to grow in water

Hydrophytic Vegetation

Vegetation that has adapted to survive in saturated or inundated conditions.

I

Inclusions

In this instance, pertaining to soils of one type located within larger soil complexes that is a different soil type

In-Kind Contribution

Donated goods and services used for match and cost-sharing

In-lieu Fee Fund

A type of compensatory mitigation where the developer pays a fee to a natural resource or nongovernmental organization for wetland creation or restoration

Inundation

The condition of having standing water or being flooded by water on the soil surface

Invasive Species

A species that does not naturally occur in a specific area and whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.

K

Karst

An area of limestone that has cracks, joints and underground caverns

L

Lacustrine

Wetlands are located along the edges of lakes where the water depth is less than 2 meters (6.6 feet)

Land disturbance

Impacts to ground surface and soils

M

Matching funds

Cost sharing or supplying monies or services to match funds supplied by an external source

Mineral Soils

A type of hydric soil found in wetlands that is composed of sands, silts and clays

Mitigation

See compensatory mitigation

Mitigation Bank

Creating, enhancing or restoring wetlands and setting them aside to compensate for unavoidable wetland impacts and damages

Morphological Adaptations

Functional and structural adaptations in plants and animals

Mottling

A process occurring in mineral soils that results in concentrations of highly oxidized materials that result from fluctuating water levels in wetlands.

N

Navigable

Waters that are either tidal or have been used or are presently being used for the transport of interstate or foreign commerce.

O

Organic Soils

A type of hydric soil found in wetlands that is composed of decomposed plant materials

Oxidation

The process by which a substance is exposed to oxygen causing it to rust due to the loss of electrons

P

Palustrine

Nontidal freshwater wetlands that are neither riverine nor lacustrine

Persistent vegetation

Plants whose stems show above the water and do not deteriorate when the plant goes dormant

Physiographic Provinces

Geographic regions

Physiological Adaptations

Adaptations of life processes

Piezometer

A type of well that is nonpumping, generally of small diameter, for measuring the elevation of a water table.

Pneumatophore

specialized roots formed on several species of plants occurring frequently in inundated habitats; root is erect and protrudes above the soil surface

Preservation

The protection of existing wetlands (or other aquatic resources) in perpetuity through the implementation of appropriate legal and physical mechanisms

Q

Quality Assurance

The overall mechanics of a monitoring organization or group to ensure accurate data collection by developing methods for data collection, documentation, reporting and evaluation

Quality Control

Activities that reduce, detect and correct errors in data

R

Resource Management Areas (RMAs)

Contiguous lands landward of the Resource Protection Areas that have the potential to damage water quality

Resource Protection Areas (RPAs)

Sensitive lands at or near the shoreline, which include buffer zones that include tidal and nontidal wetlands

Restoration

The re-establishment of a wetland in an area where it historically existed

Riverine

Wetlands located within freshwater river channels that are dominated by persistent emergent vegetation

S

Salinity

The measure of dissolved salts in water, usually expressed in parts per thousand (ppt)

Salinity Gradient

The gradual increase of salinity in a river as you travel towards its mouth where it is influenced by the ocean

Saltwater

Water that contains the approximate salinity to that of seawater (approximately 35 ppt)

Saturation

The condition where air spaces in soil are filled with water but no water is present on the soil surface

Sinkhole

A hole or depression in the ground that usually occurs in areas with limestone geology

Stakeholders

A person or group of people who have a stake or particular interest/attachment to an issue

Streamflow

the discharge of water in a natural channel

Subaqueous Land

Land and vegetation below the water surface. For regulatory purposes in Virginia, these lands are located channel ward of mean low water

Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV)

Aquatic vegetation that grows entirely below the water surface and roots in the sediments

Substrate

The underlying material or ground cover

T
.....**Tidal Freshwater**

An area of freshwater that is influenced by the tides

Topographic Map

A map showing elevation and land use

Topography – The relative elevations of different features in a landscape

V
.....**Vernal Pool**

A small lake or pond that is filled with water for only a short time during the spring; many species of reptiles, amphibians, insects and invertebrates rely on vernal pools for breeding

W
.....**Watershed**

A watershed is an area of land that drains to a common waterway, including a wetland, stream, river, lake, or even an ocean.

Water Table

The upper level of the portion of the ground in which all spaces are saturated with water

Wetland Delineation

The process of defining the boundaries of a wetland

Wet Woods

Refers to both bog woodlands and floodplain woodlands

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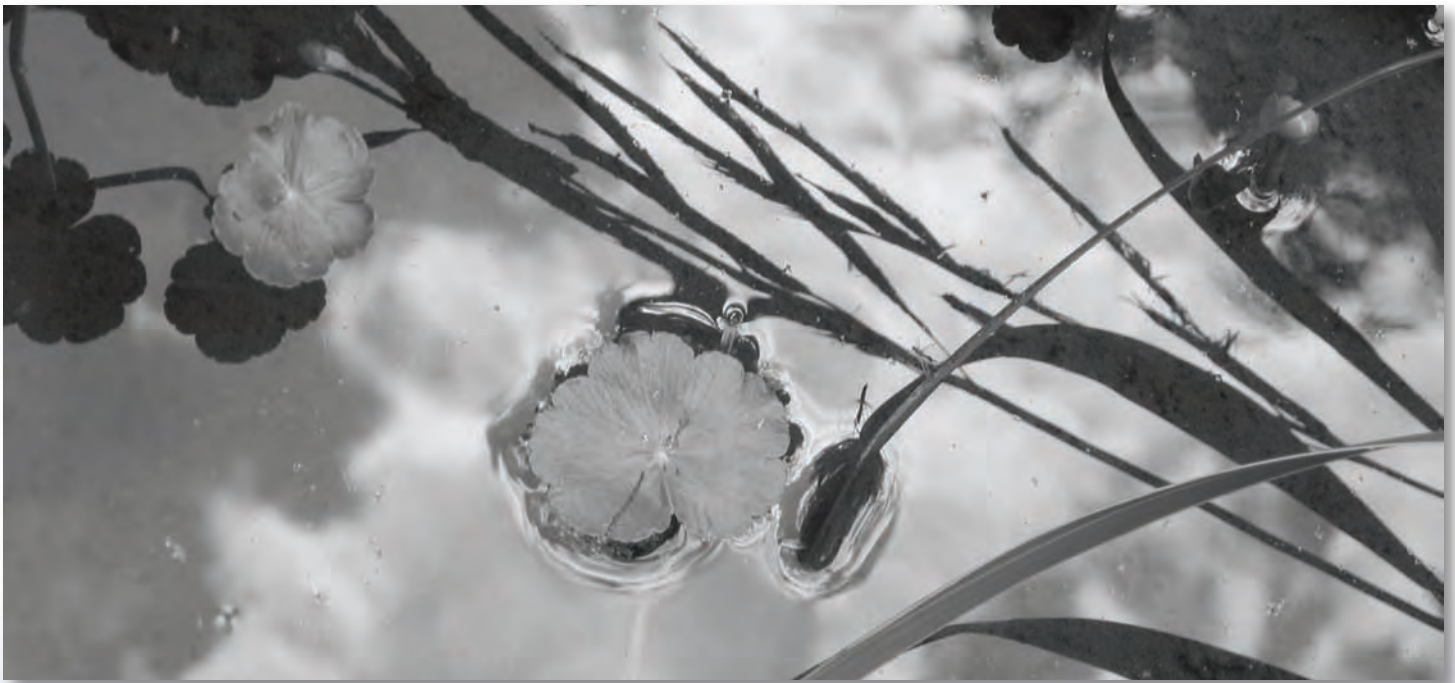
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ALLIANCE
for the
CHESAPEAKE BAY


DEQ
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY