



## Natural & Nature-Based Features

# Non-Tidal Marsh



### Description

Non-tidal marshes are wetlands covered by herbaceous plants or shrubs. Woody plants and trees are mostly absent. Non-tidal marshes can be large extensive features, marsh islands, or a fringe along the shoreline. Non-tidal marshes provide storm and flood mitigation, cleaner water, economic gains, and cultural traditions as ecosystem service benefits.

### Multiple Benefits

- \* Dense stems reduce incoming flows
- \* Flood storage
- \* Nitrogen, phosphorus & sediment capture
- \* Carbon storage
- \* Fish & animal habitat

### Non-Tidal Marsh Restoration Tips

- \* Protect natural wetlands with surrounding upland buffer
- \* Restore natural hydrology & eliminate drainage
- \* Protect & restore natural vegetation
- \* Remove & control invasive plants

### Resources

- [CBP Nontidal Wetland Restoration Reference Guide](#)
- [Nontidal Wetland BMPs in the Phase 6 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model](#)



#### Water Quality BMPs

- Nontidal Wetland Restoration (Ag)
- Nontidal Wetland Restoration - Enhancement
- Nontidal Wetland Restoration - Rehabilitation
- Nontidal Wetlands Creation (Ag)
- Urban and Non-Urban (Ag)
- Stream Restoration
- Agricultural and Soil Conservation
- Constructed Wetlands (Urban)



#### Community Rating System Credit Potential

##### Non-tidal Marshes in Special Flood Hazard Areas

**Open Space Preservation** development must be prohibited

**Natural Functions Open Space 1** undeveloped marsh or restored to natural state

**Natural Functions Open Space 4** undeveloped or restored marsh in a connected network of wetlands as shown in approved plan

**Natural Shoreline Protection** natural marsh where local policy prohibits shoreline armoring or other interventions that constrain natural processes

[Learn More www.vims.edu/ccrm/nbnf](http://www.vims.edu/ccrm/nbnf)

