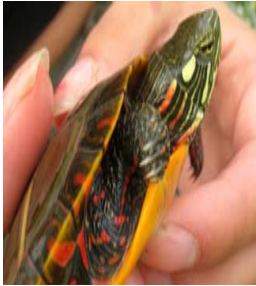


What animals make a WETLAND their home??

Moon Rhythm



Amphibians and reptiles- Frogs, turtles, salamanders and snakes hide in the grasses and mud. They must be near the water to lay eggs, live as juveniles and/or their full adult life. These animals provide food for other larger animals.

Birds- Many different birds rely on wetlands for fresh open water on migration or food a home. Ducks, geese and herons eat the many smaller animals and make nests in the tall grasses.



Gidzy

Invertebrates- Due to plenty of nutrients, many insects and bacteria find wetlands great places to thrive. These animals are critical in providing the base of the food chain to support the larger animals we normally see. These small animals are vital to the rest of the ecosystem.



crossfirecw

Mammals- Raccoons, deer and small rodents make their homes in the tall grasses, shrubs, and soft soil. Mammals are often near the top of the food chain and are indicators of healthy ecosystem All the organisms together make up a unique biotic environment. One missing link and the whole system would fall apart. It is crucial that we protect the habitat these precious animals call home.

Why Should We Preserve the Wetlands?

- Wetlands help **prevent floods** by soaking up extra rainfall.
- Wetlands **filter silt** from the surface run-off and allow the water to slowly seep into the water table.
- Certain wetland plants have been shown to **remove chemicals and other impurities** from waste water.
- Many reptiles and amphibians make their **homes** in aquatic plants and water.
- Carbon dioxide in the air we breathe is removed by prairie grass, trees, and shrubs. Carbon dioxide is a **greenhouse gas** that contributes to global warming.
- Wetlands are also a place of **beauty**.



KaCey97007

What plants can you find in a WETLAND?

Cardinal Flowers (*Lobelia cardinalis*) are 2-3 foot tall, bright red, damp prairie plants.



Carl E Lewis

Marsh Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*) is generally found in a sunny, moist location. It grows to be 2-3 feet and is has a dusty rose-colored flower.

Broad-leafed Cattail (*Typha latifolia*) grow in shallow water to be 3-9 feet tall and are easily identified by the blade-like leaves and the brown, sausage shaped, tightly packed flower cluster.

Broadleafed Arrowhead (*Sagittaria latifolia*) have arrow-shaped leaves. They grow to be 1-3 feet tall with a white flower.



Piersall

Spatterdock, Yellow Pond Lily (*Nuphar lutea*) has large oval leaves floating on the surface the water and the yellow cup or flowers.

Sweet Flag (*Acorus calamus*) is often confused with immature cattails. The plant is found at the edge of ponds with slightly wavy leaves and grows 2-4 feet tall.

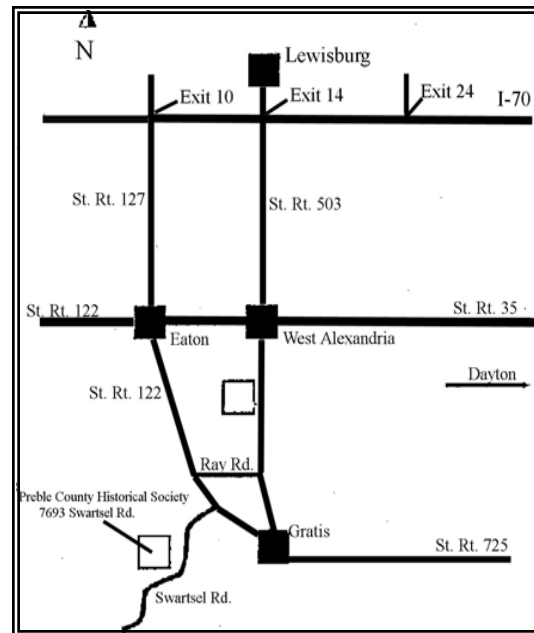
WHAT IS A WETLAND?

- A Wetland is a body of shallow water there varies in depth from three feet to one inch. The water fluctuates often from water flowing into and away from the water. It dries up due to seasonal variation.
- Many of the plants and animals must be adapted to live in both wet and dry environments. There is a great diversity of plants and animals here due to the unique habitat. Some fish and amphibians use wetlands for laying eggs and juvenile stages of life. Birds use wetlands for stops on long migrations.
- This wetland is manmade for conservation purposes. We hope to see an increase of wildlife and decrease of land erosion as reduced erosion and accumulation of nutrients is key in a wetland habitat.



Dean Forbes

The Preble County Historical Society trails are open to the public for hiking from dawn until dusk every day. Maps and trail guides are posted on the orientation sign.



**PREBLE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
7393 SWARTSEL ROAD
EATON, OH 45320
PHONE & FAX: 937-787-4256
EMAIL: PREBLECOHISTOC@BRECNET.COM
WEB: [HTTP://PCHS.PREBLECOUNTY.COM](http://PCHS.PREBLECOUNTY.COM)**

*Brochure created by:
Miami University Wildlife Society*

**WELCOME TO
THE PREBLE
COUNTY
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY
WETLANDS!**

