

# Constructed Wetlands

## Description

Constructed wetlands mimic a natural wetland through the construction of pools populated with common wetland plants. Constructed wetlands allow infiltration and evapotranspiration to occur naturally and remove pollutants through a variety of natural physical, biological, and chemical processes.

## Advantages

- Enhances the water quality of downstream water bodies
- Wetland vegetation increases shade and reduces wind, noise, and heat island effects
- Adds to an area's landscape features and can be used recreationally
- Creates habitat for birds, amphibians, dragonflies, butterflies, and bees

## Limitations

- Pretreatment may be needed in areas with high sediment yields to reduce maintenance
- Need detailed design and careful construction to obtain expected performance
- Requires a large area
- Not suitable in areas with contaminated groundwater and/or slope stability issues
- During drought, may require supplemental water to keep habitat functional



Typical Constructed Wetland

Photo Credit: [www.mda.state.mn.us](http://www.mda.state.mn.us)

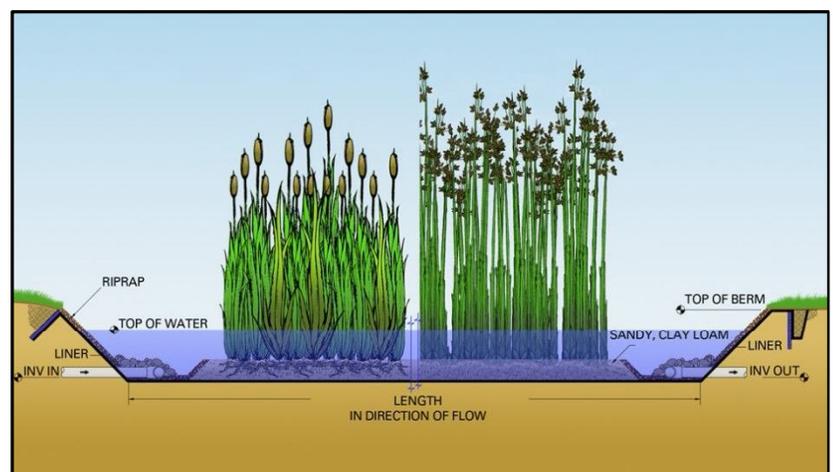


Illustration of Typical Constructed Wetland

Photo Credit: [www.discover-ireland.blogspot.com](http://www.discover-ireland.blogspot.com)