**Types of Wetlands**

**There are seven different types of wetlands in Utah.**

Wetlands are land that are wet for most of the year.

 [Wetland](http://www.uen.org/utahlink/tours/tourImage.cgi?image_id=17513&tour_id=13057&category_id=16331)   If you were to think of a wetland, this is pretty much what you would think about. This particular page will tell you about the different types of wetlands in Utah and give you an idea of what a wetland is.

 [Aquatic Plant Bed](http://www.uen.org/utahlink/tours/tourImage.cgi?image_id=17517&tour_id=13057&category_id=16331)   Aquatic Plant Beds are found on shallow borders of ponds, lakes, rivers, and streams, where there is good light and the water has little salt underwater plants and plants with floating leaves grow. These plants have valuable food to waterfowl including ducks, geese, and swans. They make places for little fish and other animals to live and feed. These plants slow the water movement and protect the soil on shores and banks from erosion.

 [Forest Wetland](http://www.uen.org/utahlink/tours/tourImage.cgi?image_id=17518&tour_id=13057&category_id=16331)   In the Forest Wetland trees grow in low-lying areas. In the spring, beautiful wildflowers grow. Frogs and salamanders find wet places to lay their eggs. Forest Wetlands can be swampy, streamside forests, bottomlands, or wet woods. In the Forest Wetland trees grow in low-lying areas. In the spring, beautiful wildflowers grow. Frogs and salamanders find wet places to lay their eggs. Forest Wetlands can be swampy, streamside forests, bottomlands, or wet woods. In the Forest Wetland trees grow in low-lying areas. In the spring, beautiful wildflowers grow. Frogs and salamanders find wet places to lay their eggs. Forest Wetlands can be swampy, streamside forests, bottomlands, or wet woods. In the Forest Wetland trees grow in low-lying areas. In the spring, beautiful wildflowers grow. Frogs and salamanders find wet places to lay their eggs. Forest Wetlands can be swampy, streamside forests, bottomlands, or wet woods. In the Forest Wetland trees grow in low-lying areas. In the spring, beautiful wildflowers grow. Frogs and salamanders find wet places to lay their eggs. Forest Wetlands can be swampy, streamside forests, bottomlands, or wet woods. In the Forest Wetland trees grow in low-lying areas. In the spring, beautiful wildflowers grow. Frogs and salamanders find wet places to lay their eggs. Forest Wetlands can be swampy, streamside forests, bottomlands, or wet woods. In the Forest Wetland trees grow in low-lying areas. In the spring, beautiful wildflowers grow. Frogs and salamanders find wet places to lay their eggs. Forest Wetlands can be swampy, streamside forests, bottomlands, or wet woods.

 [Bog](http://www.uen.org/utahlink/tours/tourImage.cgi?image_id=17519&tour_id=13057&category_id=16331)   In old lakebeds and other low areas that fill with rainwater sometimes grow layers of partially decayed plants called peat. At first glance, these places might look dry, but the moss covered floors hold a great deal of fresh water just below the surface. The ground feels spongy here. Some shrubs and evergreen also grow above the sphagnum moss. In these unusual conditions, many unique, beautiful, and rare plants and animals can be found. In old lakebeds and other low areas that fill with rainwater sometimes grow layers of partially decayed plants called peat. At first glance, these places might look dry, but the moss covered floors hold a great deal of fresh water just below the surface. The ground feels spongy here. Some shrubs and evergreen also grow above the sphagnum moss. In these unusual conditions, many unique, beautiful, and rare plants and animals can be found.

[Wet Meadow](http://www.uen.org/utahlink/tours/tourImage.cgi?image_id=17520&tour_id=13057&category_id=16331)   Holes in the ground may fill with rain and ground water and stay wet for several days or weeks. Landowners often mow or plow around these spots to avoid getting tractor wheels stuck in the soft ground. On spring evenings, these puddles seem alive with the high-pitched calls of tiny frogs looking for mates among the rushes and sedges that grow here. In the heat of the summer, these places usually dry up.

 [Shrub Swamp](http://www.uen.org/utahlink/tours/tourImage.cgi?image_id=17479&tour_id=13057&category_id=16331)   In the Shrub Swamp, scrubby low-growing thickets of shrubs grow here. You might find these places near the coast, or where lakes, streams, rivers, marshes, and forest swamps overflow. Shrub Swamps aren't always covered with water. This type of wetland is a very good habitat. These are some of the animals that are in this wetland, they are fish (trout, salmon, etc.), reptiles (alligators, lizards, etc.), amphibians (frogs, toads, etc.), and other animals.

 [Mud Flats](http://www.uen.org/utahlink/tours/tourImage.cgi?image_id=17488&tour_id=13057&category_id=16331)   Tiny particles of dirt make mud when they settle out of the water. In places where the water is very shallow, the muddy bottom is uncovered at low tide. Even though this area does not look like home to many animals and few or no plants live here, there are lots of creatures that live under the mud.

[Salt Marsh](http://www.uen.org/utahlink/tours/tourImage.cgi?image_id=17494&tour_id=13057&category_id=16331)   There are only two kinds of plants in the salty bays or at the ocean's edge and they may grow under the shallow water. Why they only live under shallow water is because they are rooted on the bottom and need light to make food. Animals use the plants for eating and for safe places to live among the plants. The plants protect the shore and reduce the muddiness of the water by slowing the waves. You may know the Salt Marshes by the name of Brackish Marsh. We were not capable of getting a picture of a Salt Marsh because we couldn't find one close enough to where we live. If you want to find one and get a picture, you might find one at the Great Salt Lake.