

# Restore Your Lost Wetlands



Alberta

Wetlands are essential components for functioning watersheds and the landscapes where they occur.

## Wetlands Are Vital to a Healthy Landscape

Wetlands are areas that hold water either temporarily or permanently. Restoring wetlands on your land provides increased quantity and quality of on-farm water sources.

Wetlands and grasslands that surround them reduce the effects of flooding, erosion and sedimentation, recharge local groundwater and aquifers, filter nutrients, pesticides and pathogens from the water, maintain shorelines, and provide important wildlife habitat.

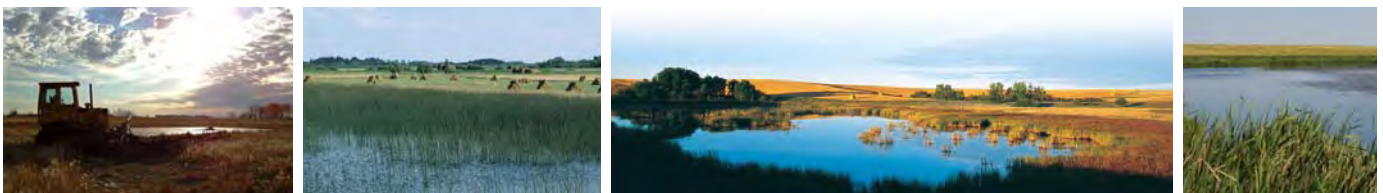
It is estimated that 64% of our provincial wetlands have been lost to alternate land uses.

*As a landowner*, restoring a lost wetland brings with it a number of benefits:

- The impacts of droughts and floods are reduced by wetlands as they retain run off water.
- Quantity and quality of ground and surface water resources improves with an abundance of wetlands.
- Reduction of soil erosion and watershed sedimentation.
- Improved air quality as wetlands help to remove and store greenhouse gas.

## An opportunity for Environmental Stewardship

Wetland restoration and environmental stewardship go hand in hand. As an organization dedicated to conserving Canada's valuable wetlands and uplands, Ducks Unlimited Canada is pleased that wetland restoration is a BMP and a key component of the Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) process.

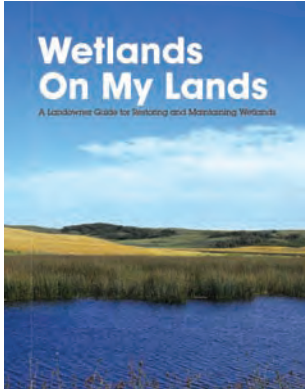


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## I want to restore my wetlands. What do I do?

There are a number of ways Ducks Unlimited Canada can assist you with the restoration of wetlands on your property including:

- Providing biological diversity and enhancement planning and expertise.
- Providing assistance with engineering design, regulatory approvals and construction supervision.
- Conducting a site visit if you require planning or restoration advice.
- Providing a free wetland restoration guide outlining techniques and approval requirements

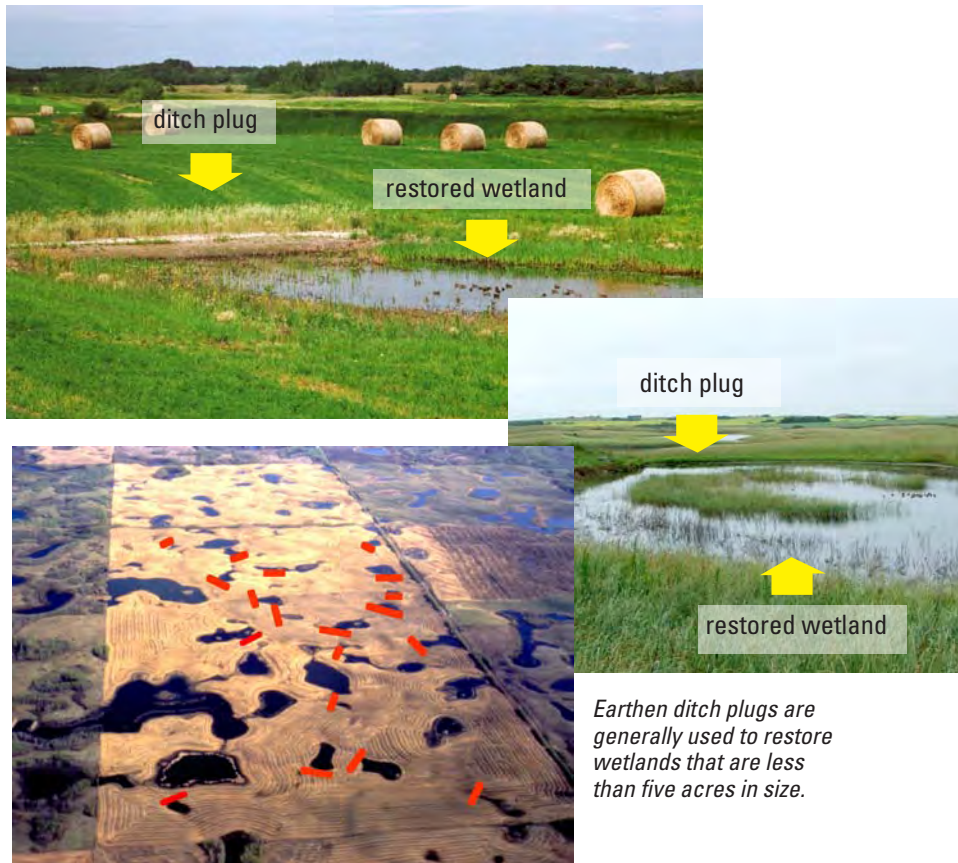


We also offer landowners a complimentary guide to restoring wetlands. The *Wetlands on My Lands* booklet explains what wetlands are, the many benefits wetlands provide and outlines a series of steps involved in restoring wetlands to their original state.

With a step-by-step approach, this guide will walk you through the simple process of restoring a wetland or wetlands using low cost techniques. You don't need to be an engineer or biologist and help is only a phone call away. If you need assistance, the wetland experts at Ducks Unlimited Canada are available to help you.

For more information and to receive a copy of the *Wetlands on My Lands* restoration guide please call 1-866-479 DUCK (3825) or visit [ducks.ca](http://ducks.ca).

## Restored Wetland



*Earthen ditch plugs are generally used to restore wetlands that are less than five acres in size.*

*Aerial photo showing ditch plug locations in red.*

### Before



### After

