



Susquehanna County Conservation District

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Susquehanna County
Conservation District

Common Wetland Plants of Susquehanna County



Pennsylvania has more than 400,000 acres of wetlands. Wetlands are areas where water is present either at or near the surface of the soil all year, or for varying periods of time during the year; Including during the growing season.

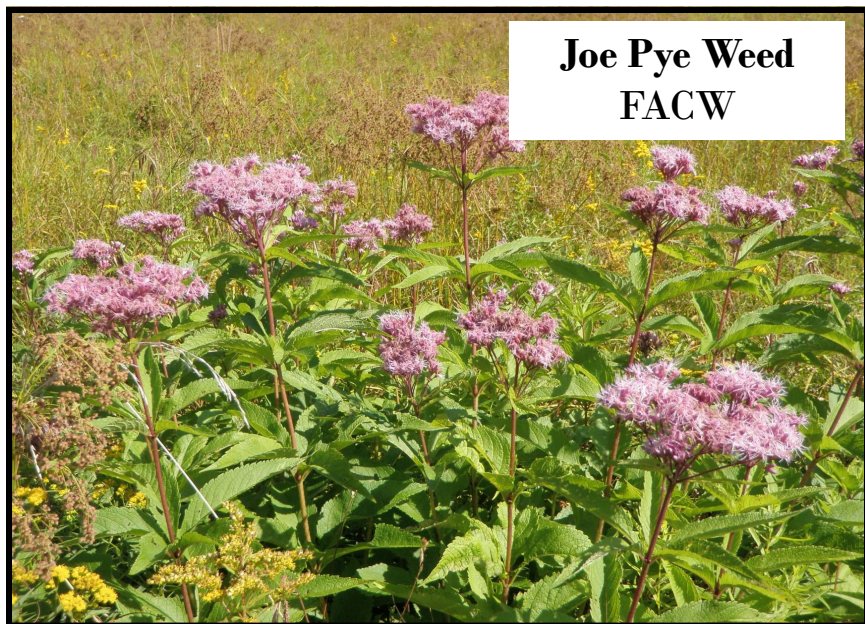
- Wetlands act as natural water purifiers, filtering sediment and absorbing many pollutants in surface waters.
- Wetlands act like a natural sponge that traps and slowly release surface water, rain, snowmelt, groundwater and flood waters.
- Trees, root mats and other wetland vegetation also slow the speed of flood waters , which help distribute water more slowly over the floodplain. This combined water storage and braking action lowers flood heights and reduces erosion.
- Wetlands are among the most productive ecosystems in the world. They are comparable to rain forests and coral reefs.
- Species found in wetlands are some of the most unique in the world because they've evolved specifically to survive in these hydrologically changing ecosystems.
- Humans use a wealth of natural products from wetlands, including fish and shellfish, blueberries, cranberries, timber and wild rice. Also, some medicines are derived from wetland soils and plants.
- More than 1/3 of species on the U.S. Endangered Species List live only in wetlands and almost half use them at some time during their lifecycles.

The staff at SCCD hope you found this book Informational. If you have any questions at all feel free to contact us at 570-782-2105 or soil@suscondistrict.org

Here is a list of the other programs we offer at Susquehanna County Conservation District:

- Small E & S Plan Assistance
 - General Permits
- Manure Managements Plans
- Growing Greener Grants
 - Riparian Buffer Grants
 - No-till Rentals
- Stormwater Management





Joe Pye Weed
FACW



Panicled Aster
FACW

Humans have contributed to the deterioration of wetlands through land development, agriculture, pollution, and the introduction of invasive species. The plants in this book are native to Susquehanna County and are a sign that a wetland might be present. Being able to identify these plants and make a conclusion that there are wetlands present is a key role in being able to conserve these crucial areas of our landscape.

Rating categories	Status Rating
Indicator status (abbreviation)	% Occurrence in wetlands
Obligate (OBL). Occur almost always under natural conditions in wetlands.	99
Facultative Wetland (FACW). Usually occur in wetlands but occasionally found in non-wetlands.	67–99
Facultative (FAC). Equally likely to occur in wetlands and nonwetlands.	34–66
Facultative Upland (FACU). Usually occur in non-wetlands but occasionally found in wetlands.	1–33
33 Upland (UPL). Occur in wetlands in another region, but occur almost always under natural conditions in non-wetlands in the region specified.	1



Sycamore
FACW



High Bush Blueberry
FACW



Speckled Alder
FACW



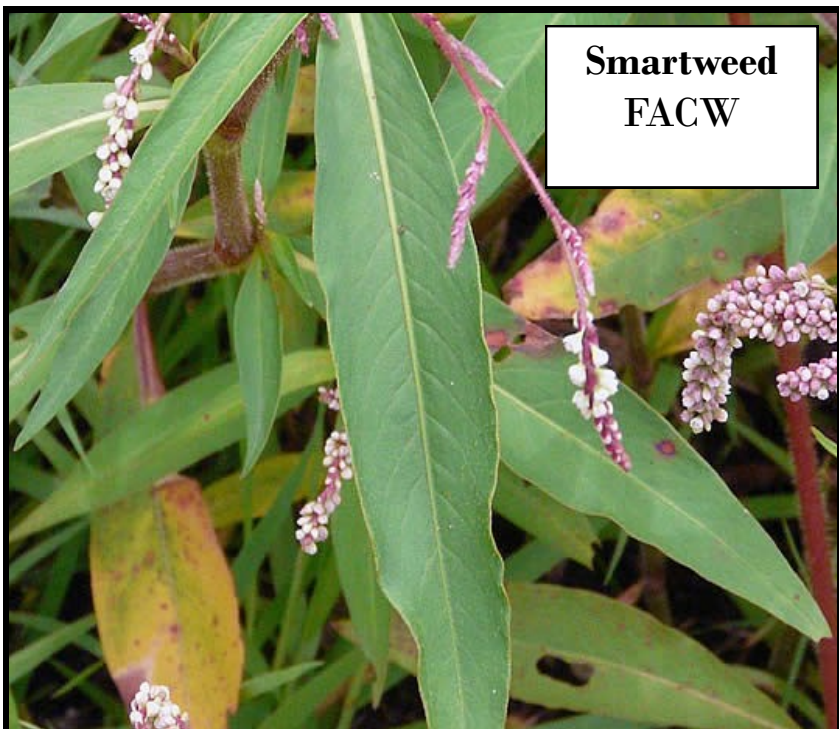
Sweetspire Spirea
FACW



Jewelweed
FACW



New England Aster
FACW



Smartweed
FACW



Skunk Cabbage
Obligate



Cinnamon Fern
FACW



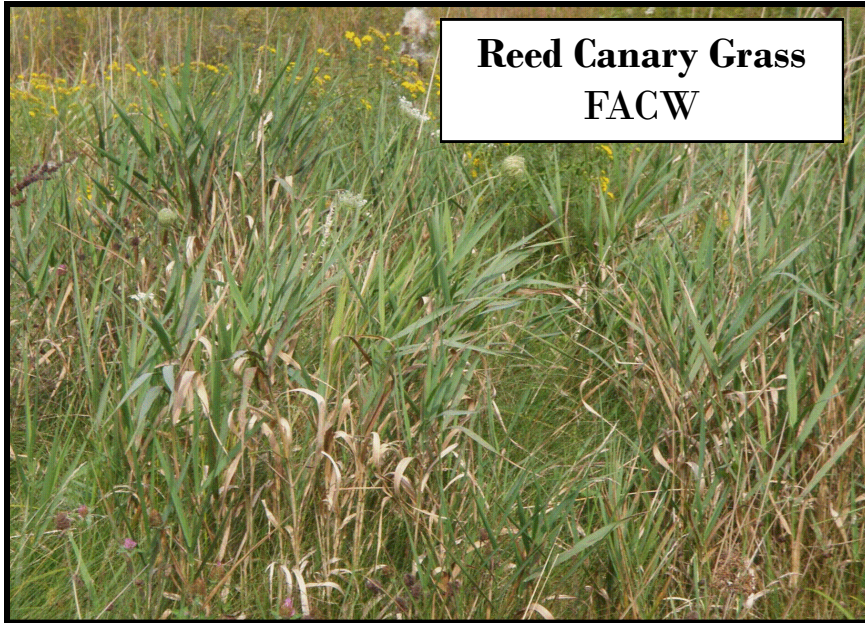
Sensitive Fern
FACW



Broadleaf Cattails
Obligate



Willow-Many Species
FACW



Reed Canary Grass
FACW



Arrowhead
Obligate



Mint
FACW



Bulrush
Obligate



Burr Sedge
Obligate



New York Aster
FACW



Woolgrass
Obligate



Blue Vervain
FACW



Boneset
FACW



Fringed Sedge
Obligate



Red Osier
Dogwood
FACW



Sweet Flag
Obligate



Spike Rush
Obligate



Beggar –Tick
Obligate



Forget-Me-Not
Obligate



Speckled Alder
FACW