

Delaware Wildlife Habitat Classification

UPLAND HABITATS

Beach and Dune Habitats

Dune Forests and Woodlands

- Coastal Loblolly Pine Upland Forest
- Pitch Pine - Heath Coastal Forest
- Maritime Red-cedar Woodland
- Pitch Pine Dune Woodland
- Loblolly Pine Dune Woodland

Dune Shrublands

- Wax-myrtle - Groundsel-tree Maritime Shrubland
- Bayberry - Beach Plum Maritime Shrubland
- Greenbrier - Poison Ivy Dune Shrubland
- Beach Heather Dune Shrubland

Dune Grasslands

- Beachgrass - Panicgrass Dune Grassland
- Overwash Dune Grassland
- Beach Fore-dune

Unvegetated Sandy Beach

Upland Forests

Piedmont Upland Forests

- Piedmont Oak - Beech - Mountain Laurel Forest
- Chestnut Oak - Black Birch Forest
- Tuliptree Rich Wood (Piedmont variant)
- Mesic Piedmont Mixed Hardwood Forest

Coastal Plain Upland Forests

- Mesic Coastal Plain Mixed Hardwood Forest
- Dry Oak - Heath Forest
- Chestnut Oak - Hairgrass Forest
- Tuliptree Rich Wood (Coastal Plain variant)
- Mesic Coastal Plain Oak Forest
- Loblolly Pine - Mixed Oak Upland Forest
- Ancient Sand Ridge Forest
- Red Maple - Sweetgum Upland Forest
- Loblolly Pine Plantation

Early Successional Upland Habitats

Herbaceous Early Successional Upland Habitats

Shrub/Brush Early Successional Upland Habitats

OTHER HABITATS

Impoundments

Sand/Gravel Pits

Structures

Note

Habitats of Conservation Concern are highlighted in **yellow**.

NON-TIDAL WETLAND HABITATS

Forested Wetlands

Forested Floodplains and Riparian Swamps

Piedmont Forested Floodplains and Riparian Swamps

- Sycamore - Green Ash Floodplain Forest
- Pin Oak - Red Maple Floodplain Depression (also listed under CP Floodplains & Swamps)

Coastal Plain Forested Floodplains and Riparian Swamps

- Red Maple - Green Ash Floodplain Forest
- Black Ash Seepage Swamp
- Pin Oak - Red Maple Floodplain Depression (also listed under PD Floodplains & Swamps)
- Red Maple - Sweetgum Streamside Swamp
- Baldcypress - Red Maple - Swamp Black Gum Swamp

Atlantic White Cedar Non-tidal Wetlands

- Delmarva Atlantic White Cedar Swamp
- Atlantic White Cedar - Mixed Herb Bog
- Atlantic White Cedar Millpond Headwater Hummock and Peat Mat Woodland

Isolated Forested Wetlands

Piedmont Isolated Forested Wetlands

- Sweetgum - Red Maple Depression Swamp (also listed under CP Isolated Wetlands)

Coastal Plain Isolated Forested Wetlands

- Coastal Loblolly Pine Wetland Forest
- Wet Loblolly Pine Forest
- Sweetgum - Red Maple Depression Swamp (also listed under PD Isolated Wetlands)
- Pin Oak - Sedge Swamp
- Willow Oak - Basket Oak Swamp
- Loblolly Pine - Mixed Oak Wet Forest
- Loblolly Pine - Sweetgum - Red Maple Swamp

Non-forested Wetlands

Shrub Swamps

- Buttonbush Shrub Swamp
- Water-willow Shrub Swamp

Coastal Plain Seasonal Ponds

Coastal Plain Seasonal Pond Buttonbush Communities

- Buttonbush - Mannagrass - Smartweed Coastal Plain Seasonal Pond Vegetation
- Buttonbush - Warty Panicgrass - Eaton's Witchgrass Coastal Plain Seasonal Pond Vegetation

Coastal Plain Seasonal Pond Herbaceous Communities

- Walter's Sedge - Eaton's Witchgrass Coastal Plain Seasonal Pond Vegetation
- Cape May - Delmarva Depression Meadow
- Three-way Sedge - Canada Rush Coastal Plain Seasonal Pond Vegetation
- Creeping Rush - Boltonia Coastal Plain Seasonal Pond Vegetation
- Maidencane Coastal Plain Seasonal Pond Vegetation
- Mixed Grass Depression Meadow
- Waterlily Deepwater Coastal Plain Seasonal Pond Vegetation

Interdunal Wetlands

- Cranberry Interdunal Swale
- Twig Rush Interdunal Swale
- Round-head Rush - Common Threesquare Interdunal Swale

Piedmont Stream Valley Wetlands

- Piedmont Streamside Seepage Wetland
- Forested Seepage Slope Wetland
- Streamside Backwater Marsh
- Streamside Tussock Meadow
- Twisted Sedge Sand Bar

Streamside Herbaceous Wetlands

- Bulrush Deepwater Marsh
- Cattail Marsh
- Phragmites Marsh

Peat Wetlands

- Virginia Chainfern Swale
- Mixed Herb Deep Peat Wetland

Riverine Aquatic and Submerged Vegetation

- Water Lily Aquatic Wetland
- Riverweed Rocky Bar and Shore
- Mixed Species Submergent Vegetation
- Submerged Tapegrass Community

TIDAL WETLAND HABITATS

Freshwater Tidal Wetlands

Freshwater Tidal Forested Wetlands

- Atlantic White Cedar - Red Maple - Pumpkin Ash Freshwater Tidal Swamp

Freshwater Tidal Scrub-Shrub Wetlands

- Red Maple - Ash Tidal Swamp
- Smooth Alder - Silky Dogwood Shrub Swamp

Freshwater Tidal Marshes

- Wild Rice Freshwater Tidal Marsh
- Mixed Broadleaf Freshwater Tidal Marsh
- Broadleaf Pondlily Freshwater Tidal Marsh
- Arrow-arum - Pickerelweed Freshwater Tidal Marsh
- Sea Level Fen
- Horned Pondweed Submerged Vegetation
- Freshwater Intertidal Quillwort Flat
- Phragmites Tidal Marsh

Saltwater and Brackish Tidal Wetlands

Tidal Low Marshes

- Salt Panne (also listed under High Tidal Marsh)
- Spartina Low Salt Marsh
- Needlerush Salt Marsh (also listed under High Tidal Marsh)
- Smooth Cordgrass - Lilaepsis Brackish Marsh
- Giant Cordgrass Tidal Marsh (also listed under High Tidal Marsh)
- Smooth Cordgrass - Water Hemp Tidal Marsh
- Water-hemp Brackish Marsh
- Cattail - Rosemallow Brackish Marsh (also listed under High Tidal Marsh)
- Submerged Widgeon Grass Community
- Unvegetated Intertidal Mudflat

Tidal High Marshes

- Salt Shrub
- Salt Panne (also listed under Low Tidal Marsh)
- Beaked Spikerush Brackish Tidal Marsh
- Needlerush Salt Marsh (also listed under Low Tidal Marsh)
- Spartina High Salt Marsh
- Common Threesquare Tidal Marsh
- Giant Cordgrass Tidal Marsh (also listed under Low Tidal Marsh)
- Switchgrass Tidal Marsh
- Cattail - Rosemallow Brackish Marsh (also listed under Low Tidal Marsh)
- Bishop-weed - Mixed Species Brackish Marsh

FRESHWATER AQUATIC HABITATS

Piedmont Streams

Coastal Plain Streams

Non-tidal Coastal Plain Streams

Tidal Coastal Plain Streams

Pond, Lake and Reservoir

BRACKISH AND MARINE AQUATIC HABITATS

Nearshore Habitats

Nearshore Open Water

Oyster Reef

Tubeworm Reef

Clam Bed

Mussel Bed

Sand Bar/Sand Flat

Offshore Habitats