Chapter 3

WETLAND MONITORING FORMS

Return To:
Georgia Adopt-A-Wetland
4220 International
Parkway, Suite 101
Atlanta, GA 30354

Georgia Adopt-A-Wetland
Visual Survey

Use this form to record important information about vegetation, soils, and hydrology in your wetland. By keeping accurate and consistent records of your visual observations, you can document current conditions and changes in wetland characteristics.

Wetland Name: _____ **Group Name:** _____

AAS-S-

Site Number: _____ **Members Present:** _____

Date: _____ **County:** _____

Weather Conditions:

☐ Clear ☐ Cloudy ☐ Rain ☐ Rain within last 24 to 48 hours?

Visual Survey

Water Source: ☐ Precipitation ☐ Groundwater ☐ Stream/river /lake ☐ Coastal Other _____

Name of associated river/stream/lake:

Name General Wetland Classification: _____ Circle type of system | Open System | Close System

Surface Water Appearance:

☐ clear ☐ milky / gray
☐ muddy ☐ green
☐ oily ☐ brown
☐ foamy ☐ black
☐ scum ☐ other: _____

Odor:

☐ none ☐ rotten eggs
☐ natural ☐ sewage
☐ gasoline or oil ☐ chemical
☐ chlorine ☐ other: _____

Wetland Buffer: (within 25 ft. from wetland)	**Excellent**	**Good**	**Fair**	**Poor**
Natural Vegetative Cover	☐	☐	☐	☐
Bank Stable- no erosion	☐	☐	☐	☐
Undisturbed land	☐	☐	☐	☐

Impacts To Wetland:

☐ Artificial water control (dam, dyke, etc) ☐ Dumping of sand, dirt, gravel
☐ Eroded banks ☐ Trash
☐ Dredging ☐ Clearing of vegetation
☐ Algal blooms (Indicates nutrients) ☐ Other:

Return To:
Georgia Adopt-A-Wetland
4220 International
Parkway, Suite 101
Atlanta, GA 30354

Transect Locations

Location of transect upland point _____

Length of transect _____ ft.

Compass bearing along transect _____ (degrees)

Numbers of stations along transect _____

Location of transect wetland point _____

Vegetation Survey

At each sampling station, look at the area within a 5 foot radius from the point along your transect. Identify the 3 dominant species in each layer. Record species name (cypress, red maple, lizard tail, cattail, etc.) and wetland indicator status (obligate, FacWet, Fac, Upland) if known.

Layers	Station 1	Station 2	Station 3
Tree			
Shrub			
Herbaceous Layer			

Vegetation Survey

Layers	Station 4	Station 5	Station 6
Tree			
Shrub			
Herbaceous Layer			

How many plant communities (obvious changes in vegetation) do you see along your transect?

Return To:
Georgia Adopt-A-Wetland
4220 International
Parkway, Suite 101
Atlanta, GA 30354

Soil Survey

Name of Wetland:

Group Name:

Site Number: AAS-S-

Date:

To collect your soil sample, use a spade or small shovel to dig an 18-inch-deep hole at each transect station. Using the soil color chart, determine the representative color of the soil at each transect (including upland areas). Fill in your observations in the following table:

	Station 1	Station 2	Station 3
Color (from Color Chart)			
Smell			
Degree of wetness (wet, damp, dry)			
Texture (clay, sandy, sticky)			

Soil Survey

	Station 4	Station 5	Station 6
Color (from Color Chart)			
Smell			
Degree of wetness (wet, damp, dry)			
Texture (clay, sandy, sticky)			

Observations of wetland soil:
Are there any defined layers to the wetland soil? If so, describe.

Is there mottling (concentrated areas of red or yellow soil)?

How deep do the plant roots go? _____ (Inches)

Is there standing water in the hole? _____ How many inches to the surface? ____ (Inches)

What organisms are living in the soil?

From *A World in Our Backyard*, with permission

Wetlands Soils Color Chart

Hydric soils may appear dark brown or black if there is a build up of organic matter. Often times they have a grayish background and mottled (speckled) with red, orange, and yellow from iron in the soil OR black from manganese in the soil. The color of the soil and its location will help identify your wetland's boundaries.

WET **DRY**

1. Gray (light) + White
(GLEY 1 7/N)

2. Olive green (light) + White
(5Y 8/3)

3. Peach
(7.5 YR 8/8)

4. Goldenrod
(10 YR 8/8)

5. Gray
(GLEY 2 7/5 PB)

6. Brown + Gray
(2.5Y 7/2)

7. Tan
(7.5YR 7/8)

8. Bittersweet
(10R 6/8)

9. Black
(GLEY 1 2.5/N)

10. Black + Sepia
(10YR 4/2)

11. Olive green + Raw Sienna
(2.5Y 4/6)

12. Burnt Sienna
(10R 4/8)

13. Sea green + Gray
(GLEY 1 7/5G)

14. Forest green + Gray
(5Y 6/2)

15. Pine green + Gra
(GLEY 2 8/10G)

16. Sky blue + Cornflower +Gray
(GLEY 2 6/5 B)

Notice the letters and numbers indicated in the parentheses under each color name above. This information relates to the color information in the Munsell Color Chart, which professionals use to identify hydric soils. Dominant hues for soil are red, yellow –red and yellow (R, YR, Y). The first number before the "/" refers to the degree of darkness of the soil color, ranging from 0 (black) to 10 (white). The second number refers to the strength of the color, beginning with 0 (neutral gray) and increasing to 8.

From *Wonders of Wetlands,* with permission

Return To:
Georgia Adopt-A-Wetland
4220 International
Parkway, Suite 101
Atlanta, GA 30354

Hydrology Survey

Name of Wetland:

Group Name:

Site Number: AAS-S-

Date:

Answer the following questions. Depending on the time of year, precipitation amounts, and various other factors, a wetland may appear dry.

	Station 1	Station 2	Station 3
Depth of surface Water			
If no surface water, is water filling the hole?			
Surface Water Movement (slow, fast, none)			
If no water, name hydrology indicators (water marks, drift lines, sediment deposits, water stained leaves, drainage patterns)			

	Station 4	Station 5	Station 6
Depth of surface Water			
If no surface water, is water filling the hole?			
Surface Water Movement (slow,fast, none)			
If no water, name hydrology indicators (water marks, drift lines, sediment deposits, water stained leaves, drainage patterns)			

Sample Form

Return To:
Georgia Adopt-A-Wetland
4220 International
Parkway, Suite 101
Atlanta, GA 30354

Georgia Adopt-A-Wetland
Visual Survey

Use this form to record important information about vegetation, soils and hydrology in your wetland. By keeping accurate and consistent records of your visual observations, you can document current conditions and changes in wetland characteristics.

Clayton County Wetland	Clayton Critter Watch AAS-G-100
Wetland Name:	**Group Name:**
AAS-S-222	Michele Droszcz, Harold Harbert, Catherine Young
Site Number:	**Members Present:**
6/26/01	Clayton
Date:	**County:**

Weather Conditions:

[x] Clear [ ] Cloudy [ ] Rain [ ] Rain within last 24 to 48 hours?

Visual Survey

Water Source: [x] Precipitation [ ] Groundwater [x] Stream/river /lake [ ] Coastal Other _____

Name of associated river/stream/lake: Pate's Creek

Name General Wetland Classification:	Riverine	Circle type of system	Open System	Close System

Surface Water Appearance:

[ ] clear	[ ] milky / gray	[ ] muddy	[ ] green
[ ] oily	[x] brown	[ ] foamy	[ ] black
[ ] scum	[ ] other: _____		

Odor:

[x] none	[ ] rotten eggs	[x] natural	[ ] sewage
[ ] gasoline or oil	[ ] chemical	[ ] chlorine	[ ] other: _____

Wetland Buffer: (within 25 ft. from wetland)	**Excellent**	**Good**	**Fair**	**Poor**
Natural Vegetative Cover	x			
Bank Stable- no erosion	x			
Undisturbed land		x		

Impacts To Wetland:

[x]	Artificial water control	(dam, dyke, etc.)	[ ]	Dumping of sand, dirt, gravel
[ ]	Eroded banks		[ ]	Trash
[ ]	Dredging		[ ]	Clearing of vegetation
[ ]	Algal blooms	(indicates nutrients)	[ ]	Other:

Sample Form

Return To:
Georgia Adopt-A-Wetland
4220 International
Parkway, Suite 101
Atlanta, GA 30354

Transect Locations

Location of transect upland point Hill Behind Turtle Cove, Tied to Small Tulip Poplar

Length of transect 82 ft.

Compass bearing along transect 130 (degrees)

Numbers of stations along transect 3

Location of transect wetland point At cane and rush transition, to the right of the red maple

Vegetation Survey

At each sampling station, look at the area within a 5 foot radius from the point along your transect. Identify the 3 dominant species in each layer. Record species name (cypress, red maple, lizard tail, cattail, etc.) and wetland indicator (obligate, FacWet, Fac, Upland) if known.

Layers	Station 1	Station 2	Station 3
Tree	Tulip Poplar (FacW) White Oak (FacU) Loblolly Pine (Fac)	Tulip Poplar (FacW) Basswood (FacU)	Red Maple (Fac)
Shrub	none	Chinese Privet (Fac) Sweet Gum (Fac+) River Cane (FacW)	Blackberry (Fac)
Herbaceous Layer	Chickweed (FacU) Virginia Creeper (Fac) Dog Grass (unknown)	Dog Grass (unknown)	Dog Grass Soft Rush (FacW+) Sedge (FacW) Honey Suckle (Fac)

How many plant communities (obvious changes in vegetation) do you see along your transect? Three

Sample Form
Soil Survey

Return To:
Georgia Adopt-A-Wetland
4220 International
Parkway, Suite 101
Atlanta, GA 30354

Name of Wetland: Clayton County Wetland

Group Name: Clayton Critter Watch
AAS-G-100

Site Number: AAS-S-222

Date: 6/26/01

To collect your soil sample, use a spade or small shovel to dig an 18-inch hole at each transect station. Using the soil color chart, determine the representative color of the soil at each transect (including upland areas). Fill in your observations in the following table:

	Station 1	Station 2	Station 3
Color (from Color Chart)	Burnt Sienna	Burnt Sienna	Black / Sepia mixed with Burnt Sienna
Smell	none	none	sulphur
Degree of wetness (wet, damp, dry)	damp	damp	Squishy wet
Texture (clay, sandy, sticky)	clay	clay	Clay, ribbons when squeezed

Return To:
Georgia Adopt-A-Wetland
4220 International
Parkway, Suite 101
Atlanta, GA 30354

Sample Form
Hydrology Survey

Name of Wetland: Clayton County Wetland

Group Name: Clayton Critter Watch
AAS-G-100

Site Number: AAS-S-222

Date: 6/26/01

Answer the following questions. Depending on the time of year, precipitation amounts, and various other factors, a wetland may appear dry.

	Station 1	Station 2	Station 3
Depth of surface Water	none	none	none
If no surface water, is water filling the hole?	none	none	Yes. Filled hole to the top
Surface Water Movement (slow, fast, none)	none	none	none
If no water, name hydrology indicators (water marks, drift lines, sediment deposits, water stained leaves, drainage patterns)	none	none	None that could be seen