

PLANNING A HANDS-ON WETLAND RESTORATION WORKSHOP

You can help others learn how to restore wetlands by hosting a *Hands-on Wetland Restoration Workshop*. Individuals who host Hands-on Wetland Restoration Workshops are leaders in their field, with a passion for helping the environment. You can organize a training session that will involve partakers in the actual construction of one or more wetlands from start to finish. Participants will be introduced to highly successful, easy to understand, and inexpensive techniques for restoring wetlands in fields, forests, and urban areas. Many of those who graduate can be expected to restore wetlands and streams in their own community.

History of Hands-on Wetland Restoration Workshops

Tom Biebighauser began instructing Hands-on Wetland Restoration Workshops in 2003, and has now taught these practical sessions in 27-States, Puerto Rico, 3-Canadian Provinces, New Zealand, and Taiwan. From one to three naturally appearing and functioning wetlands are restored at each workshop. Hands-on Wetland Restoration Workshops are well received, and very effective. Using a scale from 1 to 10, course evaluations consistently rate Hands-on Wetland Restoration Workshops from 9.8 to 10.0. Senior natural resource managers have written ... “It’s the best training I’ve ever received, and “I was amazed by how much I learned.”

Workshop length

Hands-on Wetland Restoration Workshops can range from 1 to 7-days, with individuals traveling from across North America to attend. Classes can be expected to reach capacity within 4-weeks of registration opening. Registration fees can be charged and collected by the host to help pay for costs. Fees generally range from \$20 to \$120/per participant per day.

What you will receive

Planning a Hands-on Wetland Restoration Workshop will give you individual training in wetland design and construction. The area you manage will benefit from the restoration of naturally appearing and functioning wetlands that provide habitat for endangered species, amphibians, reptiles, invertebrates, clean runoff, recharge groundwater, and control flooding.

Plan on Tom Biebighauser conducting a site visit with you before hosting a Hands-on Wetland Restoration Workshop. During this visit you can expect to identify a number of locations for building wetlands. It is common to design four wetlands each day when you are working with Tom. The design trip can also be used as a training course for a smaller group of individuals. Tom will then provide you with a written report containing detailed design and budget information that can be used to request approval and funding for your wetland project.

Steps for hosting a Hands-on Wetland Restoration Workshop

- 1) Please email Tom Biebighauser to express your interest: tombiebighauser@gmail.com. He can provide you with a free estimate of costs for working with you to design wetlands that may be built as part of training.
- 2) Begin identifying possible locations for building wetlands.
- 3) Identify partners who can help pay for the wetland(s) you would like to build.
- 4) Invite Tom to conduct a site visit with you to design wetlands about one year before the date of your Hands-on Wetland Restoration Workshop.
- 5) Review the *Wetland Design Process* document prepared by Tom Biebighauser.

Partners

The Association of State Wetland Managers is working in partnership with Tom Biebighauser to instruct Hands-on Wetland Restoration Workshops across North America. The ASWM can help advertise the availability of training in Wetland Breaking News, ASWM website, and Wetland Blogs.

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