



STAUFFER'S MARSH



DID YOU KNOW?

- Thomas Lord Fairfax granted the property that includes present day Stauffer's Marsh to Abraham Haines, a Quaker from New Jersey, in 1754. From there, the land has passed through several owners.
- Through a permanent conservation easement established by the USDA NRCS Wetland Reserve Program, the farmland was reverted back to a marsh wetland area.
- The property was donated to the Potomac Valley Audubon Society in 2011. More information can be found on their website: www.potomacaudubon.org.




Historically, the wetland was well-connected to Back Creek with undisturbed exchange between the wetland and the stream. Today, the wetland is separated from Back Creek by berms and levees. The wetland is also affected by highly invasive plants including reed canary grass, small carpgrass, and cattails. These invaders damage habitats, making the area less diverse and limiting available food and shelter for wildlife.


Stauffer's Marsh is a unique ecosystem because:




it attracts waterfowl and other waterbirds such as the Great blue heron and Common yellowthroat.



dense root mats capture pollutants and nutrients, helping to purify the water.



it contains plants that thrive in waterlogged areas such as willows, smooth alder, and yellow pond lillies.



Stauffer's Marsh is a floodplain mosaic of shrub swamp, marsh, and open water.



Public use of the area includes walking trails, photography, picnicking, and educational programs. This area is also a birding hotspot!

BIRDS YOU MAY SEE:
 Common yellowthroat
 Great blue heron
 Green heron
 Hooded merganser
 Red-headed woodpecker
 Red-winged blackbird
 Wood duck



Stauffer's Marsh is located in Berkeley County, WV along Back Creek Valley Road. 39.43384, -78.13641