# Wetland Monitoring Vocabulary

**Dissolved Oxygen:** The amount of oxygen that is present in water

**Eutrophication:** Excessive richness of nutrients in a lake or other body of water, frequently due to soil runoff from the land

**Harmful Algal Bloom:** HABs are the rapid growth of algae that can cause harm to animals, people, or the local ecology

**Marsh:** An area of low-lying land which is flooded in wet seasons or at high tide, and typically remains waterlogged at all times

**Nitrate:** Chemical (NO₃⁻) found in most fertilizers and waste. Can be harmful in high levels

**Nitrite:** Chemical (NO₂⁻) that come from fertilizers through run-off water, sewage, and mineral deposits

**Phosphate:** Essential element for life, but when there is too much of it in water, it can speed up eutrophication

**Salinity:** The amount of salt dissolved in a body of water

**Secchi Disc:** A circular disc lowered into the water to measure the turbidity of the water

**Turbidity:** Measure of the degree to which the water loses its transparency due to the presence of suspended particulates. The more total suspended solids in the water, the murkier it seems and the higher the turbidity

**Wetland:** Distinct ecosystem that is flooded by water, either permanently or seasonally