



World wetland day is celebrated every year all across the world to commemorate the Convention on Wetlands means the Ramsar Convention which was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> of February in 1971 in the city of Ramsar, Iran at the Caspian Sea coasts. The convention is a treaty on the preservation and sustainable use of wetlands. It was started celebrating for the first time in the year 1997. The Ramsar Convention offers an international structure in order to globally support the conservation and sustainable management of the wetlands.

World wetland day is celebrated to make aware the public, discuss the value of wetlands, its beneficial aspects as well as to promote its conservation and use for enhancing the overall level of the human health, growth and development. The event celebration plays a great role in making the healthy wetlands in order to deliver the worth ecosystem service to benefit the common people. The demands of water required for growing crops, energy supply and various needs of the industry are also focused during the celebration. It is celebrated to promote the proper use of wetlands and their resources.

Wetlands for a sustainable urban future is the theme for World Wetlands Day 2018. Urban wetlands make cities more liveable as places to enjoy and for their role as water filters and in flood control. Lakes, ponds, rivers and streams enhance the landscape and are desirable places to live next to or overlook. Swampy areas or ephemeral wetlands periodically wet are often drained for urban development, especially if neglected and overgrown in weeds. However wetlands absorb and store excess rainfall and provide 'green space' for urban dwellers.

World wetland day is celebrated by gathering together with common people, government agencies, NGOs, non-government organizations and people of all the community to enhance the public awareness towards the significance of wetland. To celebrate this event, variety of programmes like seminars, lectures, nature walks, poster exhibitions, video films screening, slide shows based on the wetland, art and quiz competitions, painting competition, photography exhibition, community cleanup, interviews on radio and television and etc takes place at the national level at many places. Various other new wetland policies and new Ramsar sites gets launched on this day.