Unconsolidated glacial and postglacial deposits, the largest types of surficial deposits on the coastal plain, are distinct from bedrock and also differ from bedrock in that they are not typically the result of weathering or erosion of bedrock materials. Glacial deposits are typically sorted and sorted (i.e., stratified) deposits are laid down in coastal areas. They are often composed of layers of well-to-poorly sorted sands, gravels, silts, and clays with few to no boulders, and owing to their water-related depositional origins they have many characteristics that are favorable for development. Because water is a better means of transmitting fracturing forces than ice, glacial materials tend to weather faster than bedrock materials and become much more susceptible to erosion.

Glacial deposits are also divided into a few basic categories. Glacial till deposits (s) are unsorted deposits of the last ice sheet, typically ranging from clay to coarse gravel. Glacial outwash deposits (w) are large deposits of sand and gravel that are derived from the mouths of glaciers and are deposited in lower-energy environments. Glacial meltwater deposits (m) are run-off from melting glaciers and can be sorted or unsorted. Glacial englaciers deposits (e) are deposited in the ice stream in which they are formed. Glacial till deposits are typically found in areas where the last ice sheet melted away. Glacial outwash deposits are typically found in areas where the last ice sheet melted back. Glacial meltwater deposits are typically found in areas where the last ice sheet melted away. Glacial englaciers deposits are typically found in areas where the last ice sheet melted away. Glacial till deposits are typically found in areas where the last ice sheet melted away. Glacial outwash deposits are typically found in areas where the last ice sheet melted back. Glacial meltwater deposits are typically found in areas where the last ice sheet melted away. Glacial englaciers deposits are typically found in areas where the last ice sheet melted away.

Postglacial deposits (p) are deposits that were laid down during the postglacial period, which is the time after the last ice sheet melted away. Postglacial deposits are typically formed by the deposition of sediments in coastal areas. Postglacial deposits are typically composed of sands, gravels, silts, and clays that are derived from the mouths of glaciers and are deposited in lower-energy environments. Postglacial deposits are typically found in areas where the last ice sheet melted away. Postglacial deposits are typically found in areas where the last ice sheet melted back. Postglacial deposits are typically found in areas where the last ice sheet melted away. Postglacial deposits are typically found in areas where the last ice sheet melted back. Postglacial deposits are typically found in areas where the last ice sheet melted away. Postglacial deposits are typically found in areas where the last ice sheet melted back.