

The Grassland Enhancement and Restoration Initiative (GERI)



What is it?

The Grassland Enhancement and Restoration Initiative is a program offered by the Prairie Rockets Chapter of Quail Forever in Menard County which provides payments to landowners for establishing quality nesting cover comprised of native grasses and forbs. High quality nesting and brood habitat is the most critical factor limiting quail populations.

Program Description

- Land must be located in Menard County.
- Payments are for the **establishment** of quality nesting / brood cover. To qualify nesting cover must include native warm season grasses and forbs (qualifying mixes are available through Quail Forever – call Aaron at 217-635-5207 or check them out at www.illinoisqf.org).
- GERI payments are for out-of-pocket landowner costs. Landowners are not reimbursed for costs covered by other programs (i.e. CRP). However, landowners may piggy-back GERI to cover those costs not covered by a program.
- Payments are limited to \$75 / acre
- 5 year contract term
- Funds are limited. Payments will be provided on a first come, first serve basis.

How to apply

- Landowners enrolling in another conservation program (CRP, CP33, etc) may apply at the Menard County Soil and Water Conservation District.
- Landowners may also apply directly to the local Quail Forever chapter by contacting Aaron at 635-5207 or via email at akuehl@quailforever.org.

Cooperator Agreement

- Landowners must complete a Quail Forever Cooperator Agreement to receive payment.
- Landowners must provide all necessary documentation prior to receiving payment.
- Landowner must allow access to an agent of Quail Forever to inspect the habitat project after establishment and annually through the contract period. Quail Forever will notify the landowner prior to the inspection.

Funding Source

This program is made possible through contributions and fundraising completed by the local Prairie Rockets chapter of Quail Forever serving Menard County. It also includes grant funding through the IL Department of Natural Resources from a grant of the Illinois Habitat Fund. Funds in this account were derived from the sale of state habitat stamps.

Questions?

Aaron Kuehl
217-635-5207
akuehl@quailforever.org



Grassland Enhancement and Restoration Initiative Habitat Project Agreement

Quail Forever
c/o Aaron Kuehl
206 S Lake St
Oakford, IL 62673

Landowner Information	Name:		
	Address:	City, St:	Zip:
	Phone:	Email:	

Project Description			
County	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>	Township	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
		Range	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
			<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
WSG Species included in seeding (detailed attachment preferred)			WSG Acres

Funding Description														
	Description	Acres	Cost											
Site Prep	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: left; padding: 2px;">Amount Paid By:</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Chapter</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">\$ <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Landowner</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">\$ <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Federal</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">\$ <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Other</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">\$ <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/></td> </tr> </table>	Amount Paid By:		Chapter	\$ <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	Landowner	\$ <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	Federal	\$ <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	Other	\$ <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
Amount Paid By:														
Chapter	\$ <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>													
Landowner	\$ <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>													
Federal	\$ <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>													
Other	\$ <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>													
Seed	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>											
Seeding	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>											
	Total	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>											

Be sure to attach all receipts and proof of payment along with any federal cost share information.

I agree to complete the above described project for wildlife and maintain it in in quality wildlife habitat for a contract length of at least 5 years. If the habitat is destroyed prior to the expiration of the contract, I agree to repay Quail Forever funds provided to me through this agreement. I authorize an agent of Quail Forever to inspect, with notification, the project annually through this contract to ensure that the contract obligations are met. Everything described above is accurate and I agree to abide by the terms set forth in this agreement.

Landowner Signature	Date
---------------------	------

Chapter Use Only			
Quail Forever Authorized Signature	QF Check #	Amount Paid	Date
Date of Project Inspection	Inspected by: (Signature)	Date	