

State Agriculture Development Committee

Farmland Stewardship Wildlife Fencing Program

Application for Cost-Share Grant Funding
for the Installation of Wildlife Fencing on Permanently
Preserved Farmland



Overview – Farmland Stewardship Wildlife Fencing Program

Introduction

The Farmland Stewardship Wildlife Fencing Program makes cost-share funding available for the installation of wildlife fencing (high-tensile woven wire deer fencing, electric bear fencing, or other wildlife fencing) on permanently preserved farms. The program is conducted in accordance with State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) [Policy P-53](https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/documents/rules/p53.pdf), <https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/documents/rules/p53.pdf>.

Availability of Cost-Share Grant

Cost-share funding for the installation of wildlife fencing on permanently preserved farms is subject to the following conditions:

- a. Grant amounts available to eligible applicants shall be in the form of an up to 50 percent matching grant, with the remaining percent of project costs provided by the applicant.
- b. Grant amounts available to eligible applicants will not exceed \$50,000. The eligibility grant amounts for a subdivision(s) of a Premises will be calculated pro rata on a per acre basis among the subdivided parcels. Grants will be paid on a reimbursement basis.
- c. Each individual permanently preserved farm (each Premises) shall not be eligible for more than \$50,000 in Farmland Stewardship Wildlife Fencing Program cost-share grants per eight-year period, with the period beginning on the date of completion of the first approved wildlife fencing implementation project. Once a farm has received its maximum eligibility amount, it shall not be eligible to apply for additional wildlife fencing cost-share grants until the next eight-year period.

Eligibility for Cost-Share Grant

Applicants must meet the following criteria in order to be eligible for a cost-share grant to install wildlife fencing:

- a. The applicant must be an owner, operator, or lessee of permanently preserved farmland who regularly engages in the operation and management of the farming operation on the preserved farmland. If the applicant is an operator or lessee, they must have written approval to install wildlife fencing from the owner of the land.
- b. The land on which the wildlife fencing is to be constructed must be permanently preserved farmland enrolled in a Farmland Preservation Program approved by SADC.
- c. If deer fencing is to be installed, the applicant must certify they have watched the SADC's deer fence installation training video or participated in an SADC-approved deer fence installation training session.
- d. The applicant must install wildlife fencing in accordance with the specifications prescribed in [Policy P-53](https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/documents/rules/p53.pdf).

- e. The applicant must have, or obtain prior to reimbursement, an approved farm conservation plan that addresses soil and water resources for the area to be fenced.
- f. The applicant must provide an “NJSTART” vendor ID number and entity name with their application. (A link to NJSTART instructions is provided in the application below.)

Applying for Cost-Share Grant

Applicants must use this application to apply for a Farmland Stewardship cost-share grant for the installation of wildlife fencing on their preserved farm. Each application will be reviewed to ensure the site-specific feasibility of installing wildlife fencing on the farm. For the SADC to determine that an application is feasible, there must be a demonstrated need for the wildlife fencing, and the proposed fencing must be in compliance with the deed of easement and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

Only applications that are complete, with the necessary information and attachments, will be reviewed for approval. If an application is incomplete, it is the applicant’s responsibility to provide any missing information or attachments to make it complete.

Completed applications will be reviewed and approved on a rolling basis in the order in which they are received. In the event multiple applications are received on the same day, and funding is insufficient to fund the applications’ implementation projects, the projects will be ranked for purposes of prioritizing them for available funding. Projects will be ranked by means of a numeric rating scale, and funding will be expended by rank order (highest to lowest) until available funding has been exhausted pursuant to [Policy P-53](#).

Completing the Approved Fencing Project

Applicants must commence their approved fencing project within six months of approval by the SADC and must complete the project within three years of said approval. “Commence” means purchasing a majority (greater than fifty percent) of the materials necessary to install a feasibility plan’s wildlife fencing project and providing the SADC with satisfactory written proof of purchase. If the wildlife fencing is to be installed by a contractor, “commence” means providing the SADC with copies of the signed contract and any required contract deposit. Approved wildlife fencing projects must completely enclose an area and be maintained for a lifespan of at least 10 years.

Reimbursement

The SADC will issue a grant reimbursement payment only upon completion of the approved project. Project completion means installing the approved fencing project, scheduling an inspection by SADC staff, correcting any deficiencies noted during the inspection, and submitting bills for reimbursement to the SADC using a reimbursement form authorized by the SADC.

For More Information

Please read [Policy P-53](#), including the required specifications for high-tensile woven wire deer fencing (Exhibit A) and electric bear fencing (Exhibit B), and contact the SADC at (609) 984-2504 if you have any questions about the program or application process. More information also is available on the SADC website at <https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/farmpreserve/postpres/>.

Application for Cost-Share Grant to Install Wildlife Fencing on Permanently Preserved Farmland

Applicant Information

Name of Applicant (Individual or Business Entity): _____

(If Applicant is a Business Entity):

Name of person completing this application and applying on behalf of the business entity:

(If Applicant is not the Owner of the land to be fenced):

Name of Owner:

Mailing Address of Applicant (Street, Town, Zip) _____

Physical Address of the Permanently Preserved Farm (if different) (Street, Town, Zip)

Farm Name _____

Daytime Phone _____ Is this your preferred phone? Yes ☐ No ☐

Cell Phone _____ Is this your preferred phone? Yes ☐ No ☐

Email _____

NJSTART Vendor ID#: V _____

NJSTART Vendor Entity Name (must be same as **Name of Applicant** above):

Note: Applications must include an NJSTART Vendor ID# and Vendor Entity Name in order to be reviewed. If you are not registered with NJSTART (the state's vendor payment system), please visit www.njstart.gov. More information is also available at <https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/purchase/njstart/pdf/Vendor-Registration.pdf>.

Note: Your “Applicant Name” and “NJSTART Vendor Entity Name” must be the same. If approved for a grant, your applicant name must be consistent during all phases of the project, including on bills and the SADC wildlife fencing reimbursement form. SADC grant payment can only be made to the approved applicant based on bills issued to the approved applicant. Proof of signature authority is also required for any business entities that are not individuals.

Additional Applicant Information

1. Owner or Lessee (Please check Yes or No for each sentence.)

Yes ☐ No ☐ I am the Owner or an agent of the Owner of the land to be fenced.

Yes ☐ No ☐ I am the Lessee or an agent of the Lessee of the land to be fenced.

Note: If you are not the Owner of the land to be fenced, you must provide written approval to install fencing from the Owner of the land on which the fencing is to be installed. A form that you may use for that purpose can be found at <https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/farmpreserve/postpres/>.

2. Are you regularly engaged in the operation and management of the farming operation on the preserved farm?

Yes ☐ No ☐

General Farm Information

1. What is the total acreage of the preserved farm? (This would be the total area of the farm, not just the area you are planning to fence.)

2. Please list all the Block/Lots of this preserved farm, and note the acres:
(If necessary, use additional space.)

Block/Lot: _____ Acres: _____

Block/Lot: _____ Acres: _____

Block/Lot: _____ Acres: _____

Block/Lot: _____ Acres: _____

3. Has the farm been subdivided since it was preserved?

Yes ☐ No ☐

4. Has this preserved farm previously received an SADC wildlife (deer, bear, or other) fencing grant?

Yes ☐ No ☐

5. How was the farm preserved?

☐ Through an SADC Farmland Preservation Program

☐ Through one of the following ways:

- Through its Pinelands Development Credits being severed and deed restrictions recorded pursuant to N.J.S.A. 13:18A-30, et seq. and N.J.A.C. 7:50-5.41 et seq.
- Through its Highlands development credits being severed and deed restrictions recorded through a transfer of development rights program pursuant to N.J.S.A. 13:20-13 and N.J.A.C. 7:70-4.1 et seq.
- Through an agricultural deed restriction being recorded as part of a municipal cluster development pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:55D-39.1.

6. **If the farm was not preserved through an SADC Farmland Preservation Program, please attach a copy of the agricultural deed restrictions for the land on which the wildlife fencing would be installed.**

Area to Be Fenced

Please answer the following regarding the area where you are planning to install wildlife fencing:

1. Number of acres to be fenced: _____
2. Approximate linear feet of fencing that would be installed: _____
3. Type of wildlife fencing to be installed: _____
 - a. _____ high-tensile woven-wire deer fencing
 - b. _____ electric bear fencing
 - c. _____ other (please describe type of fencing, including wildlife to be excluded)
4. How much of the area to be fenced is:
Cropland: _____ acres
Pastureland: _____ acres
Woodland: _____ acres
Other: _____ acres

5. Please attach a map which clearly shows the following:

- Recent aerial photography of the property
- The approximate boundaries of the farm
- The proposed location of the fencing
- The proposed location of the fencing's corners, gates, and line brace assemblies
- The location of any existing deer, bear, or other wildlife fencing
- All known rights of way within 50 feet of the proposed fence

Mapping Notes and Resources: The fenced area must be completely enclosed by wildlife fencing that meets the specifications in [Policy P-53](#), which is available at <https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/documents/rules/p53.pdf>. The following are some resources (with aerial photography and other information) that you could use to help create your map (see p. 13 for an example map):

- **Google Maps** – Online tool provided by Google: <https://www.google.com/maps>
- **NJ-GEOWEB** – Online tool provided by NJDEP: <http://www.nj.gov/dep/gis/geoweb splash.htm>
- **Web Soil Survey** – Online tool provided by USDA NRCS: <http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/>
- **Farm conservation plan** – Includes a map created by NRCS for your farm conservation plan: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/nj/contact/local/>
- **SADC New Jersey Preserved Farmland Map** – Online map of preserved farmland: <https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/> (click "SADC Interactive Web Map" on left)
- **Rutgers Cooperative Extension** – If you need assistance with mapping, your Rutgers Cooperative Extension county agent may be able to help: <https://njaes.rutgers.edu/county/>

6. Are there any known rights of way within 50 feet of the proposed fence?

Yes ☐ No ☐

7. What crops are you **currently growing** in the area to be fenced? Provide the number of acres of each crop.

8. What crops are you **planning to grow** in the area to be fenced? Provide the number of acres of each crop.

9. (If available) What was the gross dollar loss from wildlife damage for the previous calendar year in the area proposed to be fenced? **Please provide documents showing the extent of the crop damage (such as crop insurance claims or other verifiable documentation or information).**

10. How much do you expect the fencing project to cost (the total amount before the grant)?

- 11. Please attach a written cost quote for the project**, including the cost of materials and labor whether the fencing will be installed by the applicant or someone other than the applicant. **Note: the grant amount available to an eligible applicant will be up to 50% of the actual costs (up to a maximum of \$50,000), as documented by receipts and invoices on a reimbursement basis.**

12. Is the farm in a no-firearm-discharge zone?

Yes ☐ No ☐

13. Have you applied for NJDEP deer depredation permits or black bear season permits within the last three years?

Yes – deer permit ☐ Yes – bear permit ☐ No ☐

If yes, please attach copies of your approved permits or denial letters.

14. Is the farm actively hunted?

Yes ☐ No ☐

15. Are there parcels of public open space (owned by state, county, or municipal government or by non-profits) within 200 feet in all directions of the premises where hunting is prohibited?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, identify the name and location of the parcels:

16. Have you used any other hunting or wildlife abatement measures for the land to be fenced?

If yes, please describe:

Additional Information

1. Do you have a farm conservation plan (or have you requested a farm conservation plan) that addresses soil and water resources for the area to be fenced?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, please attach a copy of the plan (or documentation showing that you have requested a plan).

Note: For your application to be complete, you must have an approved farm conservation plan (or documentation showing you have requested a plan) that addresses soil and water resources for the area to be fenced. Please contact the SADC if you need help obtaining a plan:

<http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/about/contact/>.

Also note that later, once the project has been completed and you are seeking grant reimbursement, you must at that time have obtained, prior to reimbursement, such an approved farm conservation plan.

2. Are you proposing to fence at least five acres of woodland for woodland management purposes?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, please attach a copy of a signed Woodland Management Plan or Forest Stewardship Plan (or documentation showing that you have requested a plan) that includes wildlife fencing as a recommended management practice.

Note: Projects that propose to fence at least five acres of woodland must have a signed Woodland Management Plan or Forest Stewardship Plan, with wildlife fencing as a recommended management practice, from a forester approved pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:3-2. Please contact an approved forester if you need to obtain a plan:

<https://www.nj.gov/dep/parksandforests/forest/privatelands/consultingforesters.html>.

3. Are you a “military veteran farmer”?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, please attach a copy of discharge papers.

Note: “Military veteran farmer” is defined by [Policy P-53](#) as an eligible applicant who served in the active military, naval, or air service anywhere in the world at any time since September 11, 2001, and discharged or released therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable at the time of application.

4. **Optional: You may also submit a letter of support from a Rutgers Cooperative Extension agent.**

Applicant Eligibility – Additional Documents

1. Are you completing this application as a business entity (cooperative, corporation, partnership, or joint venture)?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, please also attach documentation showing that the person signing the application (on p. 11) has signature authority on behalf of the cooperative, corporation, partnership, or joint venture. Examples of such documentation include the following:

For Corporations:

- Certificate of incorporation and any amendments
- Corporate bylaws and any amendments
- Certificate of incumbency (if necessary due to a change in personnel authorized to bind the company)
- Resolution that specifically authorizes the project

For LLCs

- Certificate of formation and any amendments
- Operating agreement and any amendments
- Resolution that specifically authorizes the project

For Partnerships

- Partnership agreement and any amendments
- Resolution that specially authorizes the project

Application Checklist – Documents Attached with Your Application

Please indicate which of the following documents you have attached with your application (by placing a check in the box next to each item you have attached).

Required items

- ☐ Map showing the proposed fence project, including the following:
 - Recent aerial photography of the property
 - The approximate boundaries of the farm
 - The proposed location of the fencing
 - The proposed location of the fencing's corners, gates, and brace assemblies
 - The location of any existing deer, bear, or other wildlife fencing
 - All known rights of way within 50 feet of the proposed fence
- ☐ Written cost quote for the fence project, including the cost of materials and labor.
- ☐ Farm conservation plan that addresses soil and water resources for the area to be fenced; (or) Documentation showing that applicant has requested a plan.

Required items (if the condition noted applies)

- ☐ (If the applicant is not the owner) – Written approval from the owner of the property.
- ☐ (If the applicant or owner is a business entity (cooperative, cooperation, partnership, or joint venture)) – Documentation showing that the person signing this application (on p. 11) has signature authority on behalf of the business entity.
- ☐ (If the applicant is proposing to fence at least five acres of woodland for woodland management purposes) – A Woodland Management Plan or Forest Stewardship Plan (signed copy of plan that includes wildlife fencing as a recommended management practice), (or) Documentation showing that applicant has requested a plan.
- ☐ (If the farm was not preserved through an SADC Farmland Preservation Program) – Agricultural deed restriction for the land on which the wildlife fence will be installed.

Other items (if available or applicable)

- ☐ Documentation showing the extent of crop damage (crop insurance claims or other)
- ☐ NJDEP depredation permits (or denial letters) within the last three years
- ☐ Discharge papers (showing status as a military veteran farmer)
- ☐ Letter of support from a Rutgers Cooperative Extension agent

Certification

I hereby request a Farmland Stewardship Wildlife Fencing Program cost-share grant for a project to install wildlife fencing on the preserved farm as noted in this application. I agree to abide by the conditions and parameters in SADC [Policy P-53](#). I have included in this application the number of linear feet of fencing I plan to install and number of acres I plan to fence.

I certify that:

- A) I own the farmland noted in this application, or I am an operator signing on behalf of the owner; or
- B) I am the lessee of the farmland noted in this application, or I am an operator signing on behalf of the lessee.

Please enter "A" or "B" here: _____

I certify that the statements presented in this application are accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

I understand that only applications that are complete, with the necessary information and attachments, will be reviewed for approval. If my application is deemed incomplete, I understand it is my responsibility to provide any missing information or attachments to make it complete.

If my application is for deer fencing and the application is approved, I agree to watch the SADC's deer fence installation training video or complete an SADC-approved deer fencing installation training prior to installing the fence. I agree to commence the installation project within 6 months of the approval date, and I understand I must complete the project within 3 years of approval. Project completion means installing the fence, scheduling an inspection by SADC staff, correcting any deficiencies noted during the inspection, and submitting bills for reimbursement to the SADC using a form authorized by the SADC.

I understand I will not be reimbursed if fencing is not installed to the standards and specifications contained within SADC [Policy P-53](#) and its exhibits. If I wish to deviate from these standards and specifications, I understand I must seek and get approval from the SADC in writing, in advance, before conducting the fencing installation work. I also understand I will not be reimbursed for any work started prior to grant funding approval by the SADC, nor will I be paid for any work if the entire project is not completed within the allotted timeframe. I understand no partial payments will be made.

I understand that the fencing project must be undertaken, implemented, and maintained in compliance with the preserved farm's deed of easement, must conform with all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations, and must be maintained for a lifespan of at least 10 years. I understand the cost-share of installed fencing not retained for the requisite 10-year lifespan will be recaptured by the SADC on a pro-rated basis, rounded to the closest month, determined through annual monitoring visits to the Premises. I also understand I must have an approved conservation plan that addresses soil and water resources for the area to be fenced.

Signature

Name

Date

Please submit completed applications by mail or email:

State Agriculture Development Committee
PO Box 330
Trenton, NJ 08625-0330

sadc@ag.state.nj.us

Phone: (609) 984-2504

Map Example

Map drawn with NJ-GEOWEB (online tool provided by NJDEP):

<http://www.nj.gov/dep/gis/geoweb splash.htm>

