

ELIGIBLE PRACTICES

Establish winter cover, nesting cover and develop food plots.

PURPOSE

- Increase populations of ring-necked pheasant and other grassland wildlife species
- Benefit threatened or endangered species, or those with a significant decline
- Improve, connect or create high quality grassland and wetland habitat
- Provide nesting, brood and winter cover
- Provide habitat for beneficial pollinators
- Improve water quality
- Reduce erosion

PAYMENTS

Rental Rate

- Based on maximum soil rental rate established for the three predominant soils
- 10- to 15-year contract length

Cost-share

- Standard FSA 50 percent cost-share, plus 40 percent practice incentive payment to establish the practice
- Sign-up bonus payment of an additional \$75 per acre

1. *State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) is a nationwide Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) with continuous sign-up. The SAFE initiative allows public and private organizations and state and federal agencies to propose areas where new CRP acreage is essential to benefit endangered, threatened or high priority fish and wildlife species. There are two active SAFE CRP areas in Iowa: Gaining Ground for Wildlife proposed by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to establish grassland/wetland habitat statewide, and Habitat for Early Successional and Neotropical Migratory Forest Birds proposed by the Conservation Districts of Iowa in Allamakee, Clayton, Fayette and Winnishiek counties.*

ELIGIBILITY

- Land that was cropped or considered cropped four out of the six years from 2008 to 2013.
- Eligible cropland includes row crops, small grains and forage crops grown in an acceptable rotation

SEEDING SOURCES

The Iowa DNR recommends planting native Iowa prairie seed types. These grasses and wildflowers are suitable for Iowa's weather and growing conditions. Plant materials can be purchased at local nurseries and seed dealers.

MORE INFORMATION

www.fsa.usda.gov/ia

www.iowadnr.gov/crp

PARTNERS

Iowa Department of Natural Resources, USDA - Iowa Farm Service Agency, USDA - Iowa Natural Resources Conservation Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Pheasants Forever, Iowa Department of Agriculture - Division of Land Stewardship, Conservation Districts of Iowa and Iowa County Conservation Boards.

