



## **Quick Reference for Allowable Activities** **on CREP Easements**

### **ALLOWED ON CREP:**

1. Hunt, fish, hike, temporarily camp, and other activities provided they do not impact ecological significance or value or disturb the surface vegetation.
2. Use and placement of temporary duck blinds, deer stands, or other hunting blinds.
3. Plant wildlife food plots as specified in the Conservation Management Plan<sup>i</sup> (wildlife food plots cannot be harvested).
4. Harvest timber in accordance with an approved IDNR Forest Management Plan<sup>ii</sup> for the property.
5. Maintenance of existing structures, bridges, crossings, etc. at the state they were at the time of enrollment.
6. Maintain the current conditions of roads and paths existing at the time of easement execution.
7. Maintenance of waterways and drainage ditches (unless otherwise specified under a Conservation Management Plan) as needed and in accordance with Illinois Drainage Law.
8. Charge a fee for hunting, fishing, camping, or other uses of the property.
9. Scientific research projects or surveys in which the natural vegetative cover is not disturbed.
10. State agency personnel, or their designee, can access private land to perform monitoring of CREP Easements.
11. Property can be enrolled in other conservation programs complimentary to CREP (i.e., Illinois Recreational Access Program (IRAP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), etc.)
12. Property can be sold, but the easement is bound to the deed of the property and is transferred from owner to owner. The conservation easement will stay with the property for the term of the easement.

**NOT ALLOWED ON CREP:**

1. No row crops or agricultural uses other than what is allowed in the Conservation Management Plan<sup>i</sup> for wildlife benefit.
2. No commercialized recreational, industrial, or commercial activity.
3. No livestock grazing.
4. No construction or placement of temporary or new permanent buildings, docks, or other structures.
5. No human habitation or any residential activity, use, or development.
6. No construction of fences, billboards, lighted signage, or other forms of advertising or promotion.
7. No construction of new roads or widening of existing roads; however, temporary access to deer stands or duck blinds is allowed (farm lanes, paths, etc.) granted they do not cause ecological concerns (i.e., erosion).
8. No racetracks or off-road recreational vehicle use that disturbs the surface vegetation.
9. No filling, excavating, mining, drilling, removal of topsoil, sand, gravel, or rock.
10. No disturbance of natural (uncultivated) vegetation - no cultivated crops are allowed on CREP easements except as specified in the Conservation Management Plan<sup>i</sup> for wildlife benefit.
11. No installation of mechanical devices.
12. No timber harvest unless provided for in the IDNR Forestry Management Plan<sup>ii</sup>.
13. No mowing except for conservation mowing performed outside of the primary nesting seasons (April 15<sup>th</sup> - August 1<sup>st</sup>).
14. No sanitary landfills or underground storage tanks.
15. No dumping or incinerating of refuse, trash, garbage, rubbish, junk, ashes, or other material.
16. No public access unless granted by the landowner – explicitly guaranteed in the CREP easement.
17. No removal or tampering with official survey boundary markers.

**This document cannot address every circumstance that may arise in the life of the CREP easement. If you have any questions about the use of your CREP easement, please reference your recorded Grant of Conservation Right and Easement or contact IDNR at 217-557-6498 or [DNR.CREP@illinois.gov](mailto:DNR.CREP@illinois.gov).**

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<sup>i</sup> Conservation Management Plan – Plan written to outline the management practices and recommendations for the CREP easement and approved by IDNR.

<sup>ii</sup> IDNR Forestry Management Plan – Plan written to outline the management of the timber acres to promote a sustainable forest on the forested portions of the CREP easement approved by IDNR.