

# Conservation Stewardship Program Application & Management Plan



Thank you for your interest in the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP). Before you complete this application, we highly recommend that you contact your county assessor to verify that enrolling into the CSP will not have an adverse effect on your property tax obligations. Your county assessor's office may also be able to provide you with the aerial map, and property record card required with the submittal of your application. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) recommends that a landowner consult with a wildlife or forestry professional to establish their management plan. There are a number of qualified consultants available throughout the state. If a management plan has already been established on the property, please indicate that when you get to the Plan Implementation section of this application. All applications must be completed and submitted before November 1st annually in order to have time for the property to be assessed in CSP for the following year.

[County Assessor Contact Directory](#)

**Taxpayer Name:** Enter the full name of the taxpayer as it appears on the annual property tax bill for the land covered by your conservation management plan.

First Name:  Middle Initial   
Last Name:   
Corporation/Trust:

**Taxpayer Mailing Address:** Enter the mailing address of the taxpayer as it appears on the annual property tax bill for the land covered by your conservation management plan.

Address:   
City:  State  Zipcode:

**Taxpayer Daytime Phone Number:** Enter a phone number (including area code) at which the Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) can reach you during normal business hours.

Phone Number:

**Taxpayer E-mail Address (optional):** If you wish to allow IDNR to contact you by e-mail, enter your e-mail address.

Email:

**Property Index Number:** Enter the property index number or parcel number for the unimproved land as noted on your property tax bill or obtained from your County Assessor's office. You must also provide a property tax record card for each parcel having acreage being submitted for the CSP program. This information along with the required aerial maps are to be mailed to:

Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
Conservation Stewardship Program  
One Natural Resources Way  
Springfield, IL. 62702

Tax PIN #   
Tax PIN #   
Tax PIN #   
Tax PIN #   
Tax PIN #

Prepared For:

Conservation Stewardship Program  
Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL. 62702

Start Date:

Expiration Date:

Property Location:

Location of Unimproved Land: If you are not familiar with the land survey system used to identify land parcels in your county, contact your county assessor's office for assistance in determining the description of your land. If the land covered by your conservation management plan is described under the French Land Grant system, enter your lot number below instead of a section number. The map that shows these parcels is the plat map you will be required to submit with this application.

Fill in the name of the county in which the unimproved land is located. If your acreage is located in adjoining counties, you must submit an application for each county.

County:

Township

Township #

Range:

Section #

If a property is contiguous and spans multiple townships, please indicate Township Name, Township Number, Range, and Section in the space provided below for additional townships. Please separate additional information with commas.

Additional Townships

The total acreage of the Property Tax Index Number(s) or PIN(s) that you are enrolling in CSP.

Total Parcel Acreage:

Total acreage developed or acreage associated with a structure (i.e. house, barn, shed, yard, etc.).

Developed Acreage Total:

Total acreage enrolled in CSP. Total acreage being submitted to the CSP can be calculated by subtracting any developed acreage and any ineligible acreage (such as acreage mowed/baled, farmed, or used for livestock) from the total acreage of all parcels involved.

CSP Application Acreage Total

Driving directions from nearest major town. Use a town that has visible identifiers (signs, etc)

## Introduction to the Wildlife Management Plan:

This is a guide to inform the land owner of wildlife habitat needs in order to obtain the desired wildlife goals set for their property. The goal is to provide a diverse habitat capable of supporting increased numbers of wildlife and wildlife species. Management is an ongoing occurrence. Landowners enrolling in CSP need to be prepared to follow the guidelines of their management plan in order to stay in compliance with the Conservation Stewardship Program. Habitat maintenance of this enrolled property should be considered a long term commitment!

Please rank the objectives for your property. Rank your top 5 Objectives, with #1 being the highest priority.

- Create/improve habitat for wildlife such as bobwhite quail, rabbits, white-tail deer, eastern wild turkey, and other wildlife species
- Remove invasive species to promote native species
- Improve and maintain native species through use of prescribed fire and other management tools
- Manage timber for timber value (does not require any type of harvest unless landowner wishes)
- Manage area for recreational objectives (hunting, hiking, fishing, birding, mushroom collection)
- Re-vegetate area to prevent soil erosion problems
- Improve water quality for surrounding area
- For investment or personal/family legacy
- The opportunity to reduce current tax rate by completing management on your property
- Enhance and/or restore area to native plant and animal communities

Property Description: What is the CURRENT condition of the property? Is it primarily in timber acres, pasture, mowed areas, etc.? Have you actively been improving your property for conservation?

What do you primarily do on the property?

- Hunting
- Hiking
- Fishing
- Trapping
- Mushroom Collection
- Berry Collection
- Birding
- Firewood Collection
- Wildlife Watching
- ATV Use
- Camping
- No Current Use

Do you have food plots? (Optional)  Yes  No

Do you currently allow other people to hunt on your property? (Optional)  Yes  No

If yes, for what species and how many people annually ? (Optional)

Introduction to the Wildlife Management Plan (continued):

Land Use/Management History: How was the property used in the past?

- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forest/Woodland | <input type="checkbox"/> Row Crop Production | <input type="checkbox"/> Cool Season Exotic<br>(fescue/brome/orchard grass) | <input type="checkbox"/> Native Grass Planting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Strip Mine      | <input type="checkbox"/> Timber Harvest      | <input type="checkbox"/> Unimproved<br>(no structures associated)           | <input type="checkbox"/> Fallow Field          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other           |  |   |  |

**Adjacent Land Use:** What is the primary land use of the properties adjacent to the CSP property? Please select the one that most accurately describes surrounding properties:

- | North of Property  | South of Property  | East of Property   | West of Property   |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Developed                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Developed                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Developed                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Developed                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fallow Field                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Native Grass Planting                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Row Crop Production                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Timber                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Timber                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Timber                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Timber                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wetlands                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Wetlands                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Wetlands                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Wetlands                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pasture<br>(fescue/brome/orchard grass) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural with<br>timber/grass areas |

**Conservation Areas Distances:** Please indicate, to the best of your knowledge, any other conservation areas within the vicinity of the property being enrolled. Please select an approximate distance to the conservation area from the selections in the check boxes below. This is to aid the IDNR in landscape management activities.

- |                           |                              |                                 |                                  |                                  |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Wildlife:                 | <input type="checkbox"/> n/a | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 mile | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 miles | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 miles |
| Nature Preserve:          | <input type="checkbox"/> n/a | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 mile | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 miles | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 miles |
| County Forest Preserve:   | <input type="checkbox"/> n/a | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 mile | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 miles | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 miles |
| National Forest:          | <input type="checkbox"/> n/a | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 mile | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 miles | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 miles |
| National Wildlife Refuge: | <input type="checkbox"/> n/a | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 mile | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 miles | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 miles |
| IDNR Property:            | <input type="checkbox"/> n/a | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 mile | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 miles | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 miles |
| Other Federal Land:       | <input type="checkbox"/> n/a | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 mile | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 miles | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 miles |

Do you have acreage enrolled in:

- Conservation Stewardship Program
- Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
- Forestry Development Act
- Conservation Reserve Program
- EQIP/WHIP
- Nature Preserve
- Land and Water Reserve
- Wetland Reserve
- Acres for Wildlife
- USFW Partners Program

IDNR Conservation Programs: Examples - Conservation Stewardship Program, Forestry Development Act, Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program...etc.

- |                              |                                 |                                  |                                  |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> n/a | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 mile | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 miles | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 miles |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|

**Easements or Encumbrances:** Are there utilities or railroad easements on the property? Does your neighbor or yourself have an easement to a road to access the property? Does it have a conservation easement already in place?

## Maps:

Three maps are required to submit to CSP. All Aerial maps must be on an 8.5" x 11" or larger piece of paper. A direction arrow showing North must be on all Aerial maps. Please outline entire property boundary as well as the acreage that you would like to enroll into CSP. Write your name and Property Tax Index number(s) on any maps sent in to IDNR.

1. Assessors Map: This Aerial map will have property boundary identified by Property Tax Index number (PIN #s) of each of the parcels you would like to enroll into the CSP program. These maps can be obtained from your local county assessor's office or several county assessor's tax maps are available online. [See List](#) See [An Example Tax Assessors Map](#) here.

2. Aerial Stand Map: On your aerial photograph, identify areas in which you intend to manage for native species on your property. Distinguish forestry acreage from grassland acreage, pasture, etc. If you have large acreages of a single habitat type, use natural markers as stand boundaries (i.e. creek, ridge top, pond, etc.). On large properties, stands need to be distinguished and divided out. (Stand map may be drawn onto the aerial map thus having just a single map as long as the habitat types can be distinguished (i.e. don't fill in the stand with a colored pencil to show it, just outline it). These stands will be the management units you will be conducting management practices on. Aerial maps can be obtained from your county assessor's office and stands drawn onto the map. See [An Example Aerial map](#) here.

3. Plat Book Map: Include a plat map with your application. A plat map is not a plat of survey. You will need this map in order to fill out Township, Range, and Section from the beginning of the plan. See [An Example Plat Map](#) here.

**Acreage of each habitat type submitted for enrollment into the program:**

Forest:	<input type="text"/>	Fescue/Brome/Old Pasture:	<input type="text"/>	Pond/Lake:	<input type="text"/>
Native Grasses:	<input type="text"/>	Wetland:	<input type="text"/>	Developed:	<input type="text"/>

**Plants on property – check all that apply:**

**Trees**

- |  |  |                                    |                                       |   |
|--|--|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> White Oak       | <input type="checkbox"/> Red Oak                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Black Oak | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Oaks   | <input type="checkbox"/> Shagbark Hickory |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Hickories | <input type="checkbox"/> Elm                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Ash       | <input type="checkbox"/> Black Walnut | <input type="checkbox"/> Maple            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cottonwood      | <input type="checkbox"/> Locust (honey or black) | <input type="checkbox"/> Mulberry  | <input type="checkbox"/> Tuliptree    | <input type="checkbox"/> Black Cherry     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bald Cypress    | <input type="checkbox"/> Osage Orange (hedge)    |                                    |                                       |   |

**Shrubs**

- |                                      |                                   |                                     |                                     |                                     |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dogwood     | <input type="checkbox"/> Plum     | <input type="checkbox"/> Alder      | <input type="checkbox"/> Lead Plant | <input type="checkbox"/> Chokeberry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Button Bush | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazelnut | <input type="checkbox"/> Elderberry | <input type="checkbox"/> Redbud     | <input type="checkbox"/> Sumac      |

**Grasses and Forbs**

- |   |  |   |                                    |                                     |
|---|--|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Native Grasses | <input type="checkbox"/> Fescue/Brome          | <input type="checkbox"/> Ragweed        | <input type="checkbox"/> Foxtail   | <input type="checkbox"/> Turf Grass |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Partridge Pea  | <input type="checkbox"/> Black Eyed Susan      | <input type="checkbox"/> Prairie Clover | <input type="checkbox"/> Aster     | <input type="checkbox"/> Coreopsis  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wild Bergamot  | <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Bundleflower | <input type="checkbox"/> Coneflower     | <input type="checkbox"/> Goldenrod |                                     |

**Non Native Invasive Species**

- |   |   |   |   |                                       |
|---|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bush Honeysuckle | <input type="checkbox"/> Autumn/Russian Olive | <input type="checkbox"/> Japanese Honeysuckle | <input type="checkbox"/> Purple Loosestrife | <input type="checkbox"/> Kudzu        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Multiflora Rose  | <input type="checkbox"/> Buckthorn            | <input type="checkbox"/> Teasel               | <input type="checkbox"/> Phragmites (reed)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Sweet Clover |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Burning Bush     | <input type="checkbox"/> Garlic Mustard       | <input type="checkbox"/> Tree of Heaven       | <input type="checkbox"/> Callery Pear       |                                       |

***CSP Restrictions: No bailing, no land use change, no development, no manicuring like a yard, no grazing (without prescribed grazing plan for goats or sheep for invasives removal and paddocks), no acreage associated with a building site, no destructive ATV use.***

**Protection Measures : Known diseases and infestations**

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Injurious Insects Infestation | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Diseases           | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire Risk      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Diseases                | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Contamination | <input type="checkbox"/> Nearby Development |

Please describe how you will mitigate these problems:

If you have an established management plan written on the property, it may be used as part of your plan implementation section. The plans can be from other IDNR programs or private consultants. The IDNR recommends landowners consult with a wildlife or forestry professional to establish their management plan. There are a number of qualified consultants available throughout the state.

A list of Consulting Foresters in Illinois is here- [Consulting Foresters](#)

If you currently have an established management plan for the property, please send it in



## Signatures and Approvals:



This Wildlife Management Plan was specifically crafted to meet the landowner's management goals and objectives for CSP. Success in achieving these goals requires implementation of the specific management objectives and practices outlined in the plan. The signed and approved plan makes the landowner eligible to voluntarily participate in the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Conservation Stewardship Program.

By signing this application/management plan, the landowner agrees to conduct management on the property enrolled into the program and gives permission to IDNR personnel to access the property in order to evaluate ongoing management and future management needs. Actual compliance with the management plan is paramount in being eligible for the CSP.

The person who signs below is the owner or legal agent of the property for which this CSP management plan has been created. This plan has been prepared in accordance with the Conservation Stewardship Law (35 ILCS, 200/10-520) and meets the requirements. The landowner acknowledges that they have full legal access to the property in order to conduct management activities. If any change of ownership or condition of unimproved land occurs, the landowner will notify IDNR, the Office of Resource Conservation in writing within 30 days of occurrence.

An approved and certified conservation management plan guarantees an equalized assessed valuation at 5% its fair cash value for the acres enrolled in the CSP. This certification is only sent to the Department of Revenue after the management plan has been agreed on by the landowner and IDNR. You will receive a certification letter to sign before you have been officially enrolled.

Date

Landowner Signature