

**Illinois Wildlife Preservation Fund  
FY 2004 Small Project Grant  
Final Report**

Submitted for: Douglas-Hart Nature Center (#04-005W)  
By: Angela Smith

**Introduction**

The Douglas-Hart Nature Center is very thankful for the "Prairie Management" grant awarded by the Illinois Wildlife Preservation Fund. Recent funding cuts have made continued habitat management at the nature center a challenge. Without receipt of this award, the proposed project would not have been completed.

**The Project**

A thirteen acre parcel; formerly in row crop, was restored to tall grass prairie in 2000. Five acres of the planting failed and was dominated by tall goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*). The funded management project allowed us to apply the herbicide *Transline* to the infested area in September 2003. As a result of the herbicide application, the goldenrod was reduced significantly. The area was then replanted with a native forb mixture this spring.

**The Result**

By reducing competition from goldenrod in the project area and preventing further spread to adjacent areas, we were able to increase the quality and diversity of a larger prairie complex (31 acres).

**Educational Use**

The project area was used in a presentation to Eastern Illinois University master's students in June 2004 during a presentation on (1) exotic species (2) allelopathy (3) and prairie diversity. The area will continue to be used with visiting school groups and nature center program participants.

**Future Management**

The area will continue to be managed for goldenrod infestation and exotic species establishment via fire and chemical means.

**Accounting**

Earthskin Nursery (Seed)	\$991.89
Miller Farm Service (Spraying)	\$ 52.15
Herbicide	\$300.00
Materials & Supplies (in-kind)	\$120.00
Total Project Cost	\$1464.04
<b>Award</b>	<b>\$990.00</b>
Match	\$474.02