# Final Report
# The Illinois Audubon Society
# Wildlife Preservation Fund Project #12-L03W
# Restore the Loy Prairie – A Southern Till Plain Prairie Preserve

The loss of native prairies and the associated decline of prairie associated species in Illinois are well documented. In an effort to provide additional prairie habitats in Illinois, the Illinois Audubon Society (IAS) recently purchased a 210 acre property with the intent to restore a Southern Till Plain Natural Division prairie in Marion County, Illinois called the Maxine Loy Prairie.

The Loy Prairie restoration is critically located within the Southern Till Plain Natural Division. Twelve Mile Prairie, a Illinois INAI site with several Illinois species of conservation concern is located along the east boundary of the tract and a Prairie Ridge State Natural Area (PRSNA) tract is located within ½ mile of this tract. Once restored, the Loy Prairie will provide critical habitat for species of conservation concern that occur both on 12 Mile Prairie and on PRSNA. This restoration project meets goals identified in: The Illinois Comprehensive State Wildlife Plan for additional grassland habitat in the Southern Till Plain Natural Division the Illinois Prairie Chicken Recovery Plan, The Prairie Ridge State Natural Area Habitat Plan, the tract lies in a Conservation Priority Area, and The 12 Mile Prairie management plan

In the spring of 2011, the IAS applied for a Wildlife Preservation Fund grant to purchase Illinois/Midwest ecotype native prairie plants, prairie forb seed, native prairie grasses and native shrubs that focus on Illinois species of conservation concern that are known to occur in the Southern Till Natural Division. In the summer of 2011, the Illinois Audubon Society was awarded a $7000.00 Wildlife Preservation Fund grant called: Restore the Loy Prairie – A Southern Till Plain Prairie Preserve. This grant funded the purchase of approximately $3000.00 worth of native shrubs, prairie & wetland plants and $4000.00 of native prairie forb seed.

To meet the objectives listed in the grant proposal, The Illinois Audubon Society purchased $3993.30 worth of Illinois ecotype prairie forb seed from Earthskin Nursery (see attached bill). In addition, The Illinois Audubon Society purchased $2948.00 worth of native prairie shrubs, prairie plants and wetland plants from Forrest Keeling Nursery (see attached bill). A total of $6941.30 was spent out of the $7000.00 awarded by the grant. The loss of native prairies and the associated decline of prairie associated species in Illinois are well documented. In an effort to provide additional prairie habitats in Illinois, the Illinois Audubon Society (IAS) recently purchased a 210 acre property with the intent to restore a Southern Till Plain Natural Division prairie in Marion County, Illinois called the Maxine Loy Prairie.

**Photos of the native shrubs, grasses and wetland plants purchased with WPF monies.**

All of the prairie forb seed was freeze and thawed onto the prairie restoration areas on the Loy Prairie during February 2012 by volunteers; this allowed the seed to freeze and thaw into the soil which will allow for germination in the spring of 2012. Many of these prairie forb species that were purchased were specific prairie forb seed and plants that are utilized by insect species of conservation concern and were planted in an effort to establish populations of these species on the Loy Prairie. Twelve Mile Prairie is located along the east boundary of the Loy Prairie restoration, which will provide a source population for plant and animal colonization. Several Illinois species of conservation concern are known from the 12 Mile prairie corridor.

**Prairie Forb Seed purchased for the Loy Prairie Project with the Wildlife Preservation Fund Grant**

The native shrubs, prairie and wetland plants were planted on the Loy Prairie Restoration during December 2012 also by volunteers and IDNR staff. A tractor mounted auger was used to dig holes for the RPM potted shrubs and for the potted prairie and wetland plants. The plants were placed in the holes and covered with soil. These species were planted during the dormant season which should allow for the plants to have good soil compaction around the plant prior to the spring growing season. The shrubs were planted in seven different locations in two groups of 20 and five groups of 40, these groupings allow for shrub communities to be established and higher survivability. These shrub colonies should provide habitat for shrubland dependent wildlife. See attached map for locations of the shrub plantings.

**Planting native shrubs on the Loy Prairie Restoration**

**Planting a row of native shrubs and a planted shrub on the Loy Prairie Restoration**

**Planting prairie cordgrass plugs on the Loy Prairie Restoration in Marion County**

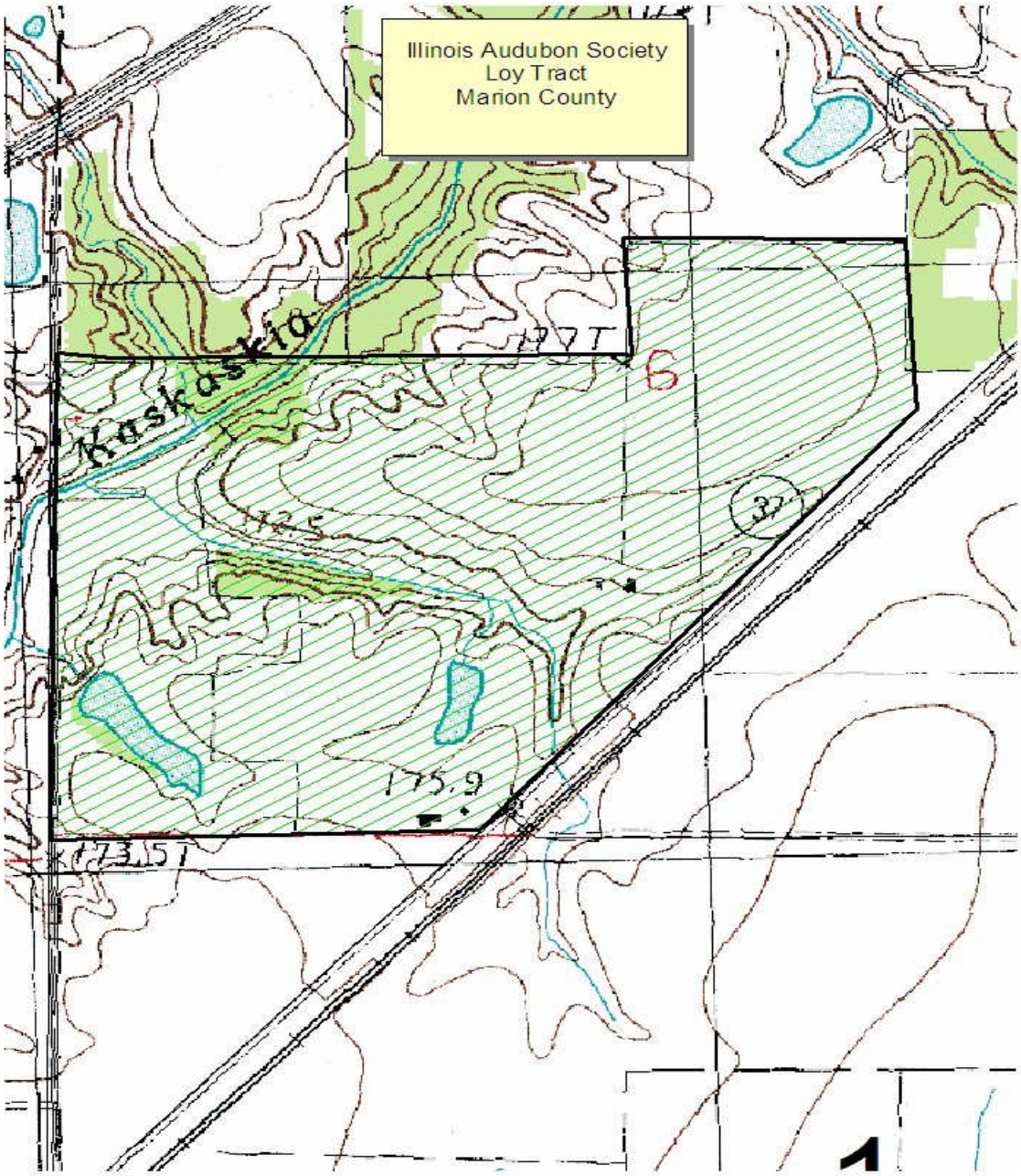
The following is a list and amounts of the prairie forb seed purchased with $3993.30 worth of grant funds. 1 lb. Aster laevis  Smooth Aster, 1 lb. Astragalus canadensis Canada Milkvetch, 2 lb. Cassia fasciculata Partridge Pea. 1 lb. Coreopsis tripteris Tall Coreopsis, 1 lb. Desmanthus illinoensis Illinois Bundle Flower, 1 lb. Desmodium canadensis Showy Tick Trefoil, 1 lb. Desmodium illinoense Illinois Tick Trefoil, 1 lb. Echinacea pallida Pale Purple Coneflower, 5 lb. Eryngium yuccifolium Rattlesnake Master, 3 lb. Heliopsis helianthoides, Early (False) Sunflower, 3 lb. Lespedeza capitata Round-headed Bush Clover, 1 lb. Liatris aspera Button Blazing Star, 1 lb. Liatris pycnostachya Prairie Blazing Star, 1 lb. Monarda fistulosa Wild Bergamot, 1 lb. Parthenium integrifolium Wild Quinine, 1 lb. Penstemon pallidus Pale Beardtongue, 4 lb. Ratibida pinnata Yellow Coneflower, 2 lb. Rudbeckia hirta Black-eyed Susan, 1 lb. Silphium integrifolium Rosinweed, 2 lb. Silphium lacinatum Compassplant, 1 lb. Solidago rigida Stiff Goldenrod and 2 lb. Zizea aurea Golden Alexanders.

**Spreading Forb Seed on the Loy Prairie Restoration**

The following is a list of native shrubs, prairie and wetland plants that were purchased with $2948.00 worth of grant funds.  American Filbert -25,  American Plum - 25, Butterfly milkweed – 25, Carolina Rose – 50, Cockspur Hawthorn – 25, Elderberry – 50, New Jersey Tea- 30, Prairie Cordgrass – 100,  Prairie Rose – 25 and Shrub indigo – 25.

The Illinois Audubon Society would like to thank the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Wildlife Preservation Fund for supporting the Illinois Audubon Society and the restoration of the Maxine Loy Prairie in Marion County.

Illinois Audubon Society
Loy Tract
Marion County


Illinois Audubon Society
Loy Tract
Marion County
Kaskaskia
177T
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37
175
175.9
173.5T

EARTHSKIN NURSERY
Lou Nelms
9331 NCR 3800E
Mason City, IL 62664
Phone: 217-482-3524
Cell: 217-737-6783
Lrnelms@cassblue.com
www.earthskinnursery.com
FEIN: 37-1151482

# Invoice

DATE: Jan. 30, 2012

Illinois Audubon
P.O. Box 2547
Springfield, IL 62708
REF: 200 acre Loy Prairie restoration in Marion County, IL

Ship To: Terry Esker

| ORDERED | UNIT | SHIPPED | DESCRIPTION | UNIT PRICE | TOTAL PRICE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Aster azureus | 200.00 | $ 0.00 |
| 1 | | | Aster laevis | 200.00 | $ 200.00 |
| | | | Aster novae-angliae | 250.00 | $ 0.00 |
| 1 | | | Astragalus canadensis | 90.00 | $ 90.00 |
| | | | Baptisia leucantha | | $ 0.00 |
| | | | Baptisia leucophaea | | $ 0.00 |
| 2 | | | Cassia fasciculata | 25.00 | $ 50.00 |
| | | | Coreopsis palmata | | $ 0.00 |
| 1 | | | Coreopsis tripteris | 165.00 | $ 165.00 |
| | | | Dalea candida | 80.00 | $ 0.00 |
| | | | Dalea purpurea | 45.00 | $ 0.00 |
| 1 | | | Desmanthus illinoensis | 35.00 | $ 35.00 |
| 1 | | | Desmodium canadensis | 110.00 | $ 110.00 |
| 1 | | | Desmodium illinoense | 165.00 | $ 165.00 |
| 1 | | | Echinacea pallida | 120.00 | $ 120.00 |
| | | | Echinacea purpurea | 90.00 | $ 0.00 |
| 5 | | | Eryngium yuccifolium | 80.00 | $ 400.00 |
| 3 | | | Heliopsis helianthoides | 50.00 | $ 150.00 |
| 3 | | | Lespedeza capitata | 150.00 | $ 450.00 |
| 1 | | | Liatris aspera | 250.00 | $ 250.00 |
| 1 | | | Liatris pycnostachya | 200.00 | $ 200.00 |
| 1 | | | Monarda fistulosa | 155.00 | $ 155.00 |
| 1 | | | Parthenium integrifolium | 145.00 | $ 145.00 |
| | | | Penstemon digitalis | 110.00 | $ 0.00 |
| 1 | | | Penstemon pallidus | 200.00 | $ 200.00 |
| 4 | | | Ratibida pinnata | 55.00 | $ 220.00 |
| 2 | | | Rudbeckia hirta | 35.00 | $ 70.00 |
| | | | Rudbeckia subtomentosa | 100.00 | $ 0.00 |
| | | | Rudbeckia triloba | 120.00 | $ 0.00 |
| 1 | | | Silphium integrifolium | 150.00 | $ 150.00 |
| 2 | | | Silphium lacinatum | 150.00 | $ 300.00 |
| | | | Silphium terebinthinaceum | | $ 0.00 |
| 1 | | | Solidago rigida | 110.00 | $ 110.00 |
| | | | Solidago speciosa | 320.00 | $ 0.00 |
| | | | Veronicastrum virginicum | | $ 0.00 |
| 2 | | | Zizea aurea | 90.00 | $ 180.00 |
| 37 | | | SUBTOTAL | | $ 3,915.00 |
| | | | ILL. SALES TAX: 6.25% | | exempt |
| | | | SHIPPING AND HANDLING 2% of subtotal | | $ 78.30 |
| | | | TOTAL | | $ 3,993.30 |

Box 1
$1485

EARTHSKIN NURSERY
Lou Nelms
9331 NCR 3800E
Mason City, IL 62664
Phone: 217-482-3524
Cell: 217-737-6783
Lrnelms@cassblue.com
www.earthskinnursery.com
FEIN: 37-1151482

# Invoice

DATE: Jan. 30, 2012

Illinois Audubon
P.O. Box 2547
Springfield, IL 62708
REF. 200 acre Loy Prairie restoration in Marion County, IL

Ship To: Terry Esker

| ORDERED | UNIT | SHIPPED | DESCRIPTION | UNIT PRICE | TOTAL PRICE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Aster azureus | 200.00 | $ 0.00 |
| 1 | | | Aster laevis | 200.00 | $ 200.00 |
| | | | Aster novae-angliae | 250.00 | $ 0.00 |
| 1 | | | Astragalus canadensis | 90.00 | $ 90.00 |
| | | | Baptisia leucantha | | $ 0.00 |
| | | | Baptisia leucophaea | | $ 0.00 |
| 2 | | | Cassia fasciculata | 25.00 | $ 50.00 |
| | | | Coreopsis palmata | | $ 0.00 |
| 1 | | | Coreopsis tripteris | 165.00 | $ 165.00 |
| | | | Dalea candida | 80.00 | $ 0.00 |
| | | | Dalea purpurea | 45.00 | $ 0.00 |
| 1 | | | Desmanthus illinoensis | 35.00 | $ 35.00 |
| 1 | | | Desmodium canadensis | 110.00 | $ 110.00 |
| 1 | | | Desmodium illinoense | 165.00 | $ 165.00 |
| 1 | | | Echinacea pallida | 120.00 | $ 120.00 |
| | | | Echinacea purpurea | 90.00 | $ 0.00 |
| 5 | | | Eryngium yuccifolium | 80.00 | $ 400.00 |
| 3 | | | Heliopsis helianthoides | 50.00 | $ 150.00 |
| 3 | | | Lespedeza capitata | 150.00 | $ 450.00 |
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| 1 | | | Monarda fistulosa | 155.00 | $ 155.00 |
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| | | | Penstemon digitalis | 110.00 | $ 0.00 |
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| 4 | | | Ratibida pinnata | 55.00 | $ 220.00 |
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| | | | Rudbeckia subtomentosa | 100.00 | $ 0.00 |
| | | | Rudbeckia triloba | 120.00 | $ 0.00 |
| 1 | | | Silphium integrifolium | 150.00 | $ 150.00 |
| 2 | | | Silphium lacinatum | 150.00 | $ 300.00 |
| | | | Silphium terebinthinaceum | | $ 0.00 |
| 1 | | | Solidago rigida | 110.00 | $ 110.00 |
| | | | Solidago speciosa | 320.00 | $ 0.00 |
| | | | Veronicastrum virginicum | | $ 0.00 |
| 2 | | | Zizea aurea | 90.00 | $ 180.00 |
| 37 | | | SUBTOTAL | | $ 3,915.00 |
| | | | ILL. SALES TAX: 6.25% | | exempt |
| | | | SHIPPING AND HANDLING 2% of subtotal | | $ 78.30 |
| | | | TOTAL | | $ 3,993.30 |

Box 2
$2430.00

**FORREST KEELING NURSERY**
**P.O. Box 135**
**Elsberry, MO 63343**
**(573) 898-5571**
**(573) 898-5803 Fax**


Date: 12/4/2012

ORDER NO: SI-113642

## Acknowledgement

**Bill To:**
Illinois Audubon Society
P O Box 2547
Springfield, IL 62708

**Ship To:**
IDNR Newton
Attn: Terry Esker
4295 N 1000th St
Springfield, IL 62708
Ph. (618) 783-2685

ms
12-5-12

| ORDER DATE | SHIP DATE | SHIP VIA | PO # |
|---|---|---|---|
| 11/15/2012 | 11/29/2012 | Deliver | |

| TERMS | TAX # | SALESPERSON | REFERENCE NO |
|---|---|---|---|
| NET 30 | NO TAX | Mary Gibler | QO-11761 |

| QUANTITY ORDERED | PRODUCT ID | DESCRIPTION | Disc | UNIT PRICE | EXT. PRICE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 25 | 12445 | S3-3CG RPM Amorpha fruticosa | | 8.95 | 223.75 |
| 25 | 12591 | S3-1 RPM Asclepias tuberosa 'Butterfly Milkweed' | | 4.25 | 106.25 |
| 55 | 15355 | S3-3CG RPM Ceanothus americanus | | 8.95 | 492.25 |
| 25 | 1369 | S3-3CG RPM Corylus americana | | 8.95 | 223.75 |
| 25 | 1393 | S3-3CG RPM Crataegus crusgalli | | 10.70 | 267.50 |
| 25 | 15378 | S3-3CG RPM Prunus americana | | 8.95 | 223.75 |
| 50 | 15392 | S3-3CG RPM Rosa carolina | | 8.95 | 447.50 |
| 25 | 15390 | S3-3CG RPM Rosa palustris | | 8.95 | 0.00 |
| 25 | 15391 | S3-3CG RPM Rosa setigera | | 8.95 | 223.75 |
| 50 BO | 1899 | 12in Sambucus canadensis | | 0.90 | ~~45.00~~ |
| 100 | 1905 | S3-1 RPM Spartina pectinata 'Prairie Cord Grass' | | 3.95 | 395.00 |
| 430 | | | | | |

Terry L Esker

RPM Patent #7,308,775 & 8,236,322

| | |
|---|---|
| **Subtotal:** | 2,648.50 |
| **Freight:** | 300.00 |
| **Sales Tax:** | 0.00 |
| **Discount:** | 0.00 |
| **Total:** | 2,948.50 |
| **Amount Due:** | **2,948.50** |

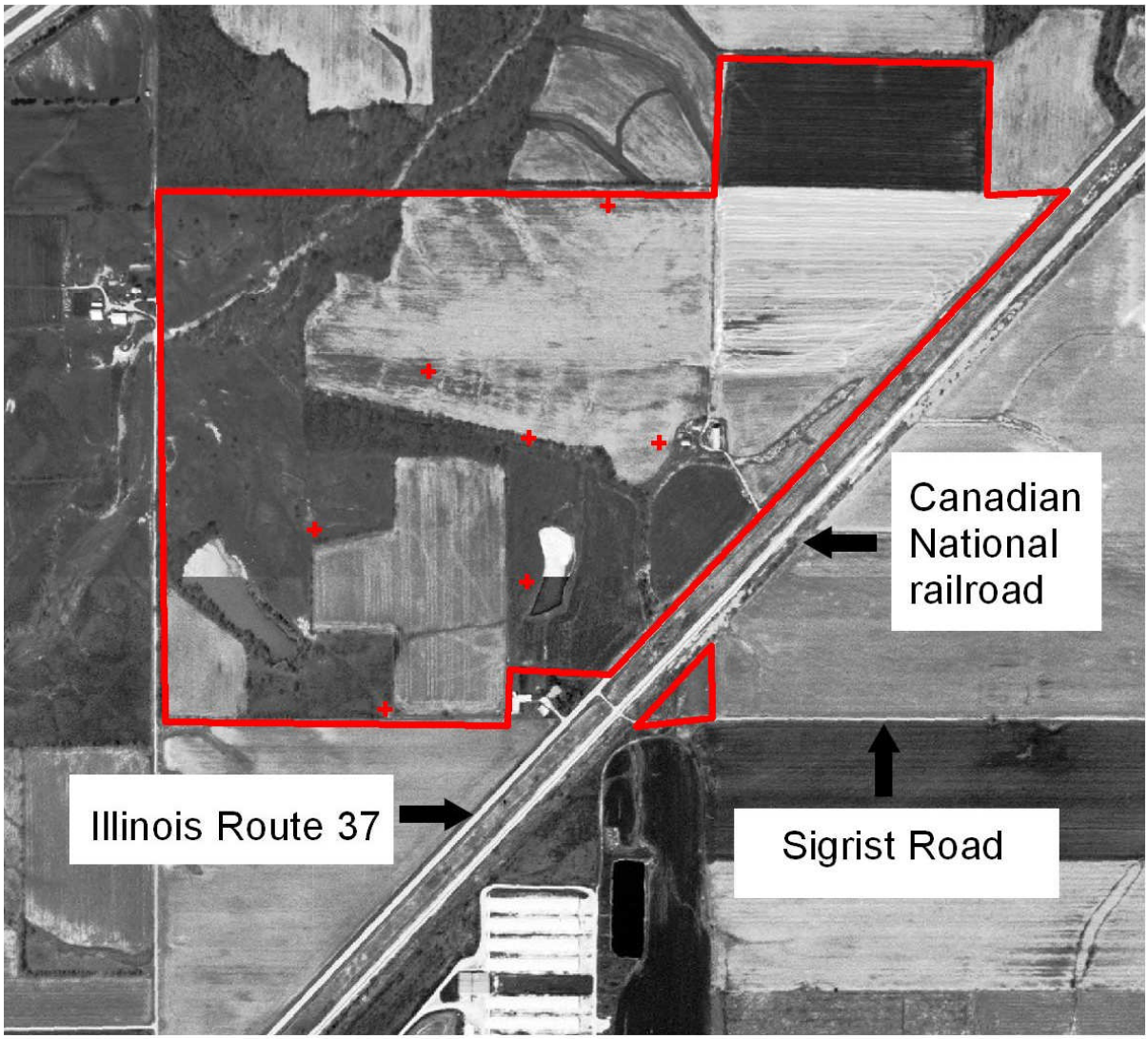
**UNPACK PROMPTLY UPON ARRIVAL**

THIS ORDER IS ACCEPTED SUBJECT TO CROP CONDITIONS AND WE SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR NON-PERFORMANCE DUE TO LABOR SHORTAGES, WEATHER CONDITIONS AFFECTING STOCK, LOSSES IN STORAGE, DELAYS IN TRANSPORTATION, OR OTHER ACTS OVER WHICH WE HAVE NO CONTROL.

CLAIMS WILL RECEIVE CONSIDERATION ONLY WHEN MADE WITHIN 10 DAYS AFTER DELIVERY.

Location of shrub plantings at Loy Prairie

Shrub plantings



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
January 21, 2013

Contact: Tom Clay, Executive Director
Illinois Audubon Society
PO Box 2547, Springfield, Illinois 62708
217-544-2473
tclay@illinoisaudubon.org
www.illinoisaudubon.org

## Wildlife Preservation Grant Project Completed at Loy Prairie

SPRINGFIELD, IL The Illinois Audubon Society today announced the completion of Phase 1 of a 2 part Wildlife Preservation Fund (WPF) grant in Marion County. The 215-acre Loy Prairie is being restored to its pre-settlement Southern Till Plain prairie condition. Located near Farina, Illinois, Loy Prairie was purchased in 2010 from the Maxine Loy Estate.

The Loy Prairie restoration is critically located within the Southern Till Plain Natural Division and adjacent to Twelve Mile Prairie, an Illinois Natural Areas Inventory site. Once restored, the Loy Prairie will provide critical habitat for species of conservation concern. Administered by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), the $7,000 WPF Grant allowed for the purchase of Illinois ecotype native prairie plants, prairie forb seed, and native shrubs.

The Illinois Wildlife Preservation Fund Grant Program is designed to preserve, protect, perpetuate and enhance non-game wildlife and native plant resources of Illinois through preservation of a satisfactory environment and an ecological balance. Projects proposed for grant funding must focus on management, site inventories or education. The Fund is financed through a voluntary check-off designation on Illinois State income tax return forms. All donations to the fund must be used to assist non-game wildlife and native plants. The Illinois Audubon Society extends its thanks to all Illinois citizens who contribute so generously to the Wildlife Preservation Fund and the IDNR for its administration of the grant program.

The mission of the Illinois Audubon Society is to promote the perpetuation and appreciation of native plants and animals and the habitats that support them. The Illinois Audubon Society is an independent, member supported, not-for-profit, statewide organization. Founded in 1897, the Society is Illinois' oldest private conservation organization with over 2300 members, 21 chapters and 15 affiliate groups. The Illinois Audubon Society has protected over 3000 acres by investing more than $6 million to protect land and water throughout Illinois.

# # #