

WANTED

Grants for Stewardship

A status update of the new Natural Areas Stewardship
Grant Program



SETTING THE STAGE

Eligible Applicants

- Conservation Land Trusts must be exempt from taxation and Section 501 (c) (3) of the federal Internal Revenue Code and include in its purposes the restoration and stewardship of land for conservation purposes.



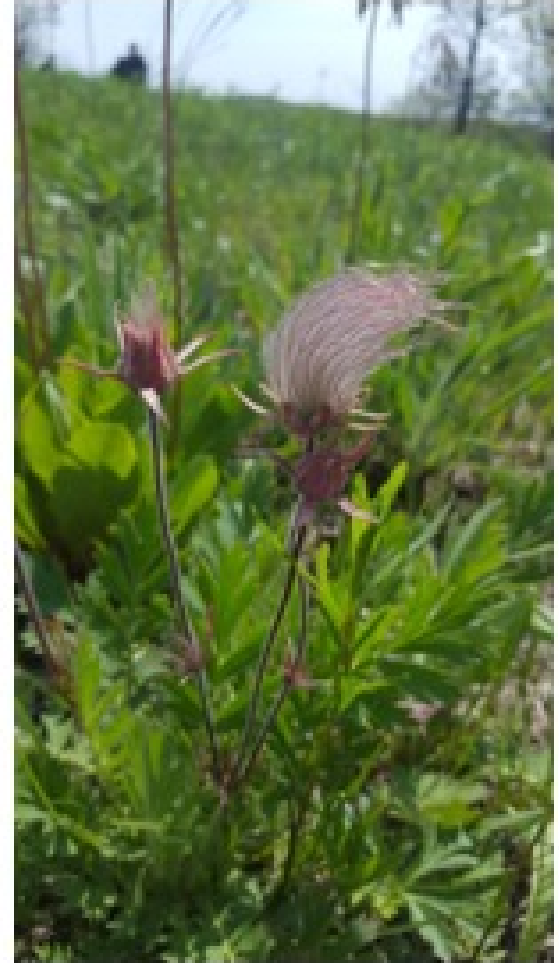
Eligible Land

- Land dedicated by the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission as Nature Preserve, dedicated buffer, or registered as a Land and Water Reserve.
- Preserve/Reserve must have a current approved management schedule
- Land Trusts can work on eligible land owned by another entity



FUNDING DETAILS

- Maximum funding is \$100,000/project
- Matching funds are encouraged but not required
- Expenses prior to the grant term are not allowed
- Length of grant term will be no more than two (2) years. Justified extensions are possible.
- Grants are paid on a reimbursement basis



THE FINE PRINT....

Eligible expenses can be:

- Materials such as tools, safety items, herbicide and construction materials
- Equipment items or a group of items that make up one functional unit valued over \$1000
- Employee salary and indirect costs are allowed (no benefit costs)



SIGN ON THE DOTTED LINE...

- Applicants must register in the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) system prior to applying.

<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/GATA/Pages/default.aspx>

- Three page grant application form*
- Budget form*
- Proposal narrative



CORRALLING THE ENTHUSIASM

- IDNR internal coordination and review March
- JCAR pre-review
- JCAR first notice April 5 – May 20
- *IDNR responds to comments*
- JCAR second notice June 11 or July 9
- *Budget analysis*
- Notice of Funding Opportunity Aug 1 – Sept 16
- Project selection Oct 1
- Grant agreements Oct 31

