

State Agriculture Development Committee

Farmland Stewardship Deer Fencing Program

Application for Cost-Share Grant Funding
for the Installation of Deer Fencing on Permanently
Preserved Farmland



Overview – Farmland Stewardship Deer Fencing Program

Introduction

The Farmland Stewardship Deer Fencing Program makes cost-share funding available for the installation of deer fencing on permanently preserved farms. The program is conducted in accordance with State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) Policy P-53 (see attached).

Availability of Cost-Share Grant

Cost-share funding for the installation of deer fencing on permanently preserved farms is subject to the following conditions:

- a. Grant amounts available to established farmers shall be in the form of a 50 percent matching grant, with 50 percent of the cost associated with the project provided by the established farmer.
- b. Grant amounts available to established farmers shall be based on common deed ownership, shall not exceed \$200.00 per acre and shall not exceed a total grant amount of \$20,000 per application.
- c. The applicant shall not be eligible to apply for additional Farmland Stewardship Program cost-share grants for a period of at least eight years from the date of completion of a previously approved project.

Eligibility for Cost-Share Grant

Applicants must meet the following criteria in order to become eligible for cost-share grants to install high-tensile woven-wire deer fencing:

- a. Applicant must be an established farmer. An established farmer is defined as an owner-operator or immediate family member of the owner-operator of a family farm who actively participates in the operation and management of a farming operation, is a resident of the State of New Jersey, spends a substantial portion of time in carrying out a farming operation and planted a crop or acquired livestock or aquatic organisms which were on the farm at the time of the completion of the feasibility plan application. If the applicant is a cooperative, a corporation, a partnership or a joint operation, it must be primarily engaged in farming, that is, the applicant entity must derive over 50 percent of its gross income from all sources from its farming operation and its principle place of business shall be in New Jersey.
- b. The land on which the deer fencing is to be constructed is permanently preserved farmland enrolled in the Farmland Preservation Program (FPP) or Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Program approved by SADC.

c. Applicant must participate in a Committee-approved deer fence installation training session.

d. Applicant must install deer fencing in accordance with the specifications prescribed in Policy P-53.

Applying for Cost-Share Grant

Farmers must use this application to apply for a Farmland Stewardship cost-share grant for the installation of deer fencing on their preserved farm. Each application will be reviewed to ensure the site-specific feasibility of installing deer fencing on the farm. For the SADC to determine that an application is feasible, there must be a demonstrated need for the deer fencing and the proposed fencing must be in compliance with the deed of easement and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

Applications reviewed by the SADC will also be ranked for purposes of prioritizing applications for available funding. Fencing projects will be ranked by means of a numeric rating scale and funding will be expended for a given program round by rank order (highest to lowest) until available funding has been exhausted pursuant to Policy P-53.

Application for Cost-Share Grant to Install Deer Fencing on Permanently Preserved Farmland

Applicant Information

Applicant Name _____

Farm Name _____

Mailing Address (Street, Town, Zip) _____

Physical Address, if different (Street, Town, Zip) _____

Daytime Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Email _____

General Farm Information

What is the total acreage of the preserved farm where you're planning to install the deer fencing?

Please list the Block/Lots of this preserved farm, and note the acres:
(If necessary, use additional space)

Block/Lot: _____ Acres: _____

Block/Lot: _____ Acres: _____

Block/Lot: _____ Acres: _____

Block/Lot: _____ Acres: _____

Do you own any other preserved farms? Yes No

If yes, note the physical address of each farm and the total acres, and list the Blocks/Lots and acres:

(If necessary, use additional space)

Address of other preserved farm: _____

Total acres of other preserved farm: _____

Block/Lot: _____ Acres: _____

Block/Lot: _____ Acres: _____

Block/Lot: _____ Acres: _____

Address of other preserved farm: _____

Total acres of other preserved farm: _____

Block/Lot: _____ Acres: _____

Block/Lot: _____ Acres: _____

Block/Lot: _____ Acres: _____

Note about acreage: *The total acres of all permanently preserved farmland in common deed ownership is needed for determining the maximum cost-share eligibility.*

Area to Be Fenced

Please answer the following regarding the area for which you're planning to install deer fencing:

Number of acres to be fenced: _____

Approximate linear feet of deer fencing that would be installed: _____

How much of the area that will be fenced is:

- Cropland _____ acres
- Pastureland _____ acres
- Woodland _____ acres
- Other _____ acres

Attach a map (which will become Appendix A of your application) which clearly shows the following:

- Recent aerial photography of the property
- The approximate boundaries of the farm
- The proposed location of the deer fencing
- The proposed location of the deer fencing's corners, gates, and braces
- The location of any existing deer fencing
- All known rights of way within 50 feet of the proposed fence

Notes about mapping: *The following are some resources (with aerial photography and other information) that you could use to help create your map:*

- Google Maps – online tool provided by Google: <https://www.google.com/maps>
- NJ-GEOWEB – online tool provided by NJDEP: <http://www.nj.gov/dep/gis/geoweb splash.htm>
- Web Soil Survey – online tool provided by USDA NRCS: <http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/>
- Farm conservation plan – includes a map created by NRCS for your farm conservation plan: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/nj/contact/local/>
- Rutgers Cooperative Extension – If you need assistance with mapping, your local Rutgers Cooperative Extension Agent may be able to help you with creating a GIS map: <https://njaes.rutgers.edu/county/>

Please see the attached map for an example.

What crops are you currently growing in the area to be fenced? Provide number of acres of each crop.

What crops are you planning to grow in the area to be fenced? Provide number of acres of each crop.

What is the current dollar loss from deer damage (if available) from the acreage proposed to be fenced? Please provide crop insurance claims and if not available, a letter of support from a Rutgers Cooperative Extension agent.

Is the farm in a no firearm discharge zone?

Yes No

Have you applied for and obtained NJDEP depredation permits? If yes, provide copies.

Yes No

Is the farm open to allow hunting?

Yes No

Are there adjacent parcels of public open space (owned by state, county, or municipal government or by non-profits) where hunting is prohibited? If yes, identify by name and location.

Yes No

Have you used any other hunting or deer abatement measures for the land to be fenced? If yes, please describe:

Additional Information

Are you a "military veteran farmer"? If yes, please provide a copy of discharge papers.

Yes No

***Note:** "Military veteran farmer" is defined by P-53 as an established farmer who served in the active military, naval, or air service anywhere in the world at any time since September 11, 2001,*

and discharged or released therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable at the time of application.

Do you have a farm conservation plan for the area to be fenced? If yes, please provide a copy.

Yes No

Note: A farmer must have an approved farm conservation plan that addresses soil and water resources for the area to be fenced. Please contact SADC if you need to obtain one:

<http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/about/contact/>

Are you proposing to fence woodland for forestry purposes? If yes, please submit a copy of your Woodland Management Plan or Forest Stewardship Plan.

Yes No

Note: Projects that propose to fence any portion of woodland for forestry purposes must have a signed Woodland Management Plan or Forest Stewardship Plan with deer fencing as a recommended management practice. Please contact an approved forester if you need to obtain one:

<http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/forest/ACF2.pdf>

Additional Documents – Applicant Eligibility

To confirm eligibility as an established farmer, please provide the following: a statement of the present financial situation of the farm, including the gross farm income, copies of Internal Revenue Service forms Schedule F or 1120S for the three most recent tax years, and a net worth statement.

Note: As mentioned above under “Applicant Eligibility,” a person who meets the definition of “established farmer” may apply for cost-share funding assistance to install deer fencing on their preserved farm. If the established farmer is a cooperative, a corporation, a partnership or a joint operation, it must be primarily engaged in farming, that is, the applicant entity must derive over 50 percent of its gross income from all sources from its farming operation and its principle place of business shall be in New Jersey.

Agreement

I hereby request _____ linear feet of deer fence to enclose _____ acres on the preserved farm as noted in this application, and I agree to abide by the conditions and parameters in SADC Policy P-53.

I certify that I own the farm in question and I am an established farmer. The statements presented in this application are accurate and true to the best of my knowledge. If my application is approved, I agree to complete an SADC-approved deer fencing installation training prior to installing the fence, and I agree to start the installation project within 6 months of the approval date. I understand I must complete the project within 3 years of approval. Project completion means installing the fence, scheduling an inspection by SADC staff, correcting any deficiencies noted during the inspection, and submitting bills for reimbursement to the SADC using a form authorized by the SADC. I understand I will not be reimbursed if fencing is not installed to the standards and specifications contained within SADC Policy P-53 and its exhibits. I also understand I will not be reimbursed for any work started prior to grant funding approval by the SADC, nor will I be paid for any work if the entire project is not completed within the allotted timeframe. I understand no partial payments will be made.

I understand that the fencing project must be undertaken, implemented, and maintained in compliance with the preserved farm’s deed of easement, must conform with all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations, and must be maintained for a lifespan of at least 10 years. I understand the cost-share of installed fencing not retained for the requisite 10-year lifespan will be recaptured by the SADC on a pro-rated basis, rounded to the closest month, determined through annual monitoring visits to the Premises. I also understand I must have an approved conservation plan for the area to be fenced.

Signature

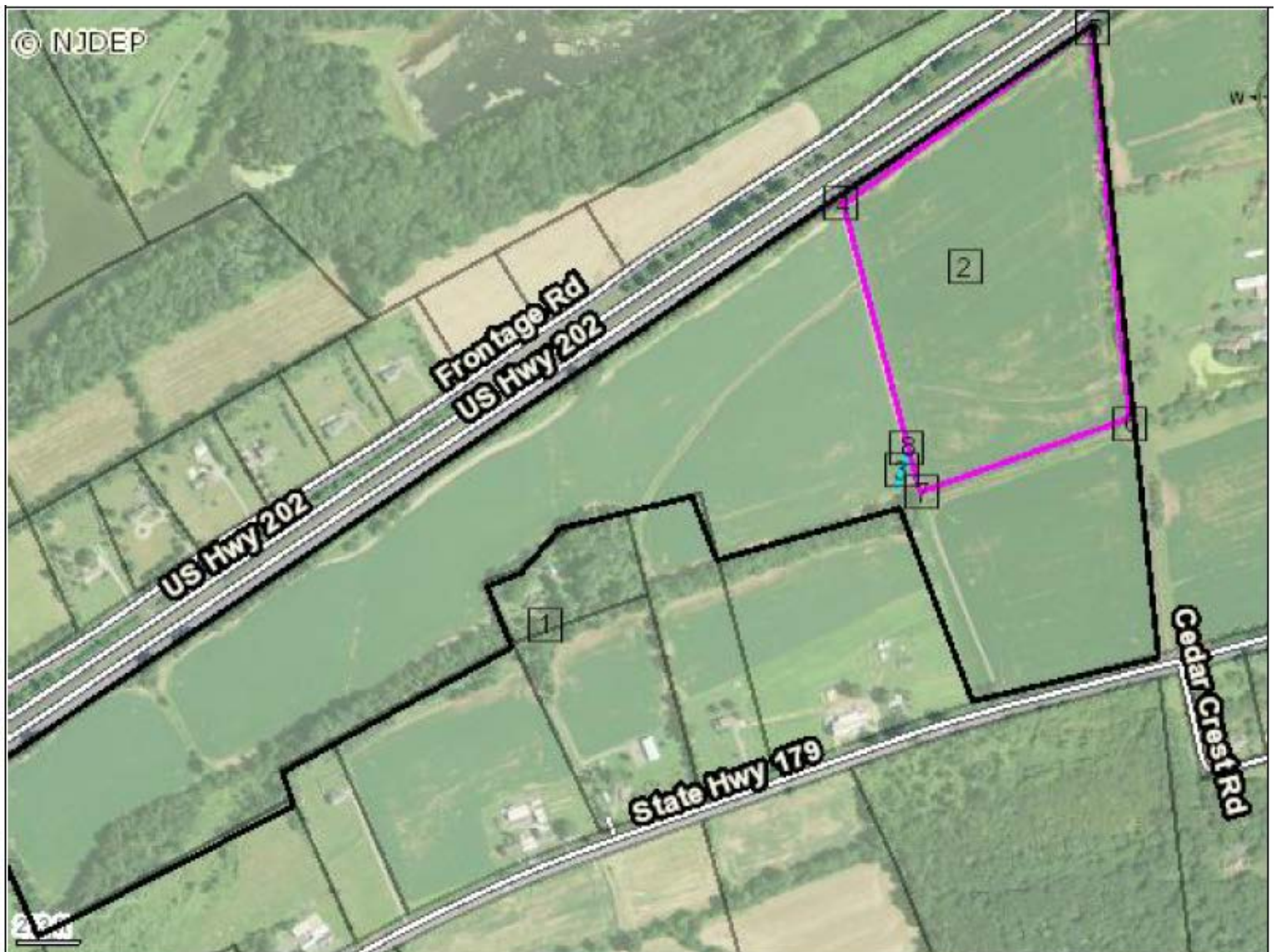
Date

Please submit completed applications by March 23, 2017 to:

State Agriculture Development Committee
369 S. Market St.
PO Box 330
Trenton, NJ 08625-0330
Phone: (609) 984-2504
FAX: (609) 633-2004

Email: sadc@ag.state.nj.us

Sample Map drawn with NJ-GEOWEB (online tool provided by NJDEP):
<http://www.nj.gov/dep/gis/geoweb splash.htm>



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- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| 1 Approximate Property Boundary | 6 Corner |
| 2 Deer Fence Location | 7 Corner |
| 3 Gate | 8 Line Brace |
| 4 Corner | |
| 5 Corner | |

Map Printed On {2017-01-24 13:03}

Comments 4000' Feet Deer Fence 1 Gate 4 Corners 1 Line Brace

