

New Law Enhances NJDA and SADC Fencing Grant Programs – Scope, Grant Amounts, and Eligibility Expanded

February 6, 2024

On January 8, 2024, P.L. 2023, c. 233 was signed into law. This law enhances the NJDA and State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) Fencing Programs, which make cost-share funding available for the installation of wildlife fencing on farms and could include deer, bear or other wildlife fencing as determined by the NJDA or SADC. Farm owners, operators or lessees may receive up to 50 percent matching funds (\$50,000 maximum) if their application is approved.

Farms enrolled in a ‘permanent farmland preservation program’, as defined in SADC Policy P-53, are eligible for the SADC program. The new law clarifies that all other farms may apply to the NJDA program.

Applicants who lease or operate but do not own the farmland described in their application must receive authorization from the landowner. NJDA grants will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis until all funds for the fiscal year are expended, and applicants must review a copy of the Standard Agreement before applying. SADC grants will similarly be awarded on a rolling basis until funding is exhausted.

Applicants to either program will also need an NJSTART vendor ID.

The application forms are available through the clickable links below.

- NJDA – <https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/anr/agriassist/deerfencing.html>
- SADC – <https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/farmpreserve/postpres/#2>

For questions or more information on the updated wildlife fencing program, email or call:

- NJDA – Division of Agricultural and Natural Resources at njdadeerfence@ag.nj.gov or 609-913-6490
- SADC – sadc@ag.nj.gov or 609-984-2504