

# **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. Common deed ownership is the Premises at the time of preservation, i.e., a single deed of easement. The eligibility grant amounts for a subdivision(s) of a Premises will be calculated pro rata on a per acre basis among the subdivided parcels.
- c. The premises shall not be eligible for additional Farmland Stewardship Deer Fencing 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 meet the definition of 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 owned by the established farmer applicant and is permanently preserved farmland enrolled in a Farmland Preservation Program approved by SADC.
- c. Applicant must certify she or he has watched the SADC's deer fence installation training video or participated in an SADC-approved deer fence installation training session.

- d. Applicant must install deer fencing in accordance with the specifications prescribed in Policy P-53.
- e. Applicant must have, or obtain prior to reimbursement, an approved farm conservation plan that addresses soil and water resources for the area to be fenced.
- f. Applicant must provide an “NJSTART” vendor ID number and entity name with their application.

### **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.

Only applications that are complete, with the necessary information and attachments, will be reviewed for approval. If an application is incomplete, it is the applicant’s responsibility to provide any missing information or attachments to make it complete.

Completed applications will be reviewed and approved on a rolling basis in the order in which they are received. In the event multiple applications are received on the same day, and funding is insufficient to fund the applications’ implementation projects, the projects will be ranked for purposes of prioritizing them for available funding. Projects will be ranked by means of a numeric rating scale, and funding will be expended by rank order (highest to lowest) until available funding has been exhausted pursuant to Policy P-53.

### **Completing the Deer Fencing Project**

Farmers must commence their deer fencing project within six months of approval by the SADC and must complete the project within three years of said approval. “Commence” means purchasing a majority (greater than fifty percent) of the materials necessary to install a feasibility plan’s deer fencing project and providing the SADC with satisfactory written proof of purchase. If the deer fencing is to be installed by a contractor, “commence” means providing the SADC with copies of the signed contract and any required contract deposit. Approved deer fencing projects must completely enclose an area and be maintained for a lifespan of at least 10 years.

### **For More Information**

Please read Policy P-53 (see attached), and contact the SADC at (609) 984-2504 if you have any questions about the program or application process. More information also is available on the SADC website at <https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/farmpreserve/postpres/>.

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

## Applicant Information

Applicant Name (Name of Established Farmer) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (Street, Town, Zip) \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Address of Permanently Preserved Farm (if different) (Street, Town, Zip)

Farm Name \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Is this your preferred phone? Yes  No

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Is this your preferred phone? Yes  No

Email \_\_\_\_\_

NJSTART Vendor ID#: V \_\_\_\_\_

NJSTART Vendor Entity Name (must be same as Applicant above): \_\_\_\_\_

**Note: Applications must include an NJSTART Vendor ID# and Vendor Entity Name in order to be reviewed.** If you are not registered with NJSTART (the state's vendor payment system), please visit [www.njstart.gov](http://www.njstart.gov). More information is also available at <https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/purchase/njstart/pdf/Vendor-Registration.pdf>.

**Note: Your "Applicant Name" and "NJSTART Vendor Entity Name" must be the same.** If approved for a grant, your applicant name must be consistent during all phases of the project, including on bills and the SADC deer fencing reimbursement form. SADC grant payment can only be made to the approved applicant based on bills issued to the approved applicant. Proof of signature authority is also required for any entities that are not individuals.

## **General Farm Information**

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

2. 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: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Has the farm been subdivided since it was preserved?

Yes  No

4. Has this preserved farm previously received an SADC deer fencing grant?

Yes  No

5. How was the farm preserved?

Through an SADC Farmland Preservation Program

Through one of the following ways:

- Through its Pinelands Development Credits being severed and deed restrictions recorded pursuant to N.J.S.A. 13:18A-30, et seq. and N.J.A.C. 7:50-5.41 et seq.
- Through its Highlands development credits being severed and deed restrictions recorded through a transfer of development rights program pursuant to N.J.S.A. 13:20-13 and N.J.A.C. 7:70-4.1 et seq.
- Through an agricultural deed restriction being recorded as part of a municipal cluster development pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:55D-39.1.

6. **If the farm was not preserved through an SADC Farmland Preservation Program, please attach a copy of the agricultural deed restrictions for the land on which the deer fencing will be installed.**

## **Area to Be Fenced**

Please answer the following regarding the area where you are planning to install deer fencing:

1. Number of acres to be fenced: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Approximate linear feet of deer fencing that would be installed: \_\_\_\_\_

3. How much of the area to be fenced is:

Cropland: \_\_\_\_\_ acres

Pastureland: \_\_\_\_\_ acres

Woodland: \_\_\_\_\_ acres

Other: \_\_\_\_\_ acres

4. Please attach a map 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 brace assemblies
- The location of any existing deer fencing
- All known rights of way within 50 feet of the proposed fence

**Mapping Notes and Resources:** The fenced area must be completely enclosed by deer fencing that meets the specifications in Policy P-53. The following are some resources (with aerial photography and other information) that you could use to help create your map (see p. 11 for an example 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/>
- **SADC New Jersey Preserved Farmland Map** – Online map of preserved farmland: <https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/> (click "SADC Interactive Web Map" on left)
- **Rutgers Cooperative Extension** – If you need assistance with mapping, your Rutgers Cooperative Extension county agent may be able to help: <https://njaes.rutgers.edu/county/>

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

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

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7. What was the gross dollar loss from deer damage for the previous calendar year in the area proposed to be fenced (if available)? **Please provide documents showing the extent of the crop damage (such as crop insurance claims or other verifiable documentation).**

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8. How much do you expect the deer fencing project to cost (the total amount before the grant)?

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9. **Please attach a written cost quote for the project, including the cost of materials and labor if the deer fencing will be installed by someone other than the established farmer, or including the cost of materials to be installed by the established farmer.**

10. Is the farm in a no-firearm-discharge zone?

Yes  No

11. Have you applied for NJDEP depredation permits within the last three years?

Yes  No

**If yes, please attach** copies of your approved permits or denial letters.

12. Is the farm actively hunted?

Yes  No

13. Are there parcels of public open space (owned by state, county, or municipal government or by non-profits) within 200 feet in all directions of the premises where hunting is prohibited?

Yes  No

If yes, identify the name and location of the parcels:

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

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## **Additional Information**

1. Are you a “military veteran farmer”? **If yes, please attach** 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.

2. Do you have a farm conservation plan (or have you requested a farm conservation plan) that addresses soil and water resources for the area to be fenced?  
Yes  No

**If yes, please attach** a copy of the plan (or documentation showing that you have requested a plan).

**Note:** A farmer must have an approved farm conservation plan that addresses soil and water resources for the area to be fenced. Please contact the SADC if you need help obtaining a plan: <http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/about/contact/>.

3. Are you proposing to fence at least five acres of woodland for woodland management purposes?  
Yes  No

**If yes, please attach** a copy of a signed Woodland Management Plan or Forest Stewardship Plan (or documentation showing that you have requested a plan) that includes deer fencing as a recommended management practice.

**Note:** Projects that propose to fence at least five acres of woodland must have a signed Woodland Management Plan or Forest Stewardship Plan, with deer fencing as a recommended management practice, from a forester approved pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:3-2. Please contact an approved forester if you need to obtain a plan: <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/forest/ACF2.pdf>.

4. **Optional: You may also submit a letter of support from a Rutgers Cooperative Extension agent.**

## **Applicant Eligibility – Additional Documents**

1. Are you completing this application as a cooperative, corporation, partnership, or joint venture?

Yes  No

**If yes, please attach** the following to confirm your eligibility as an established farmer:

- a. Copies of Internal Revenue Service forms Schedule F, 1120S, or 1065 for the three most recent tax years; and
- b. Gross farm income for the three most recent tax years.

**If yes, please also attach** documentation showing that the person signing the application (on p. 10) has signature authority on behalf of the cooperative, corporation, partnership, or joint venture. Examples of such documentation include the following:

For Corporations:

- Certificate of incorporation and any amendments
- Corporate bylaws and any amendments
- Certificate of incumbency (if necessary due to a change in personnel authorized to bind the company)
- Resolution that specifically authorizes the project

For LLCs

- Certificate of formation and any amendments
- Operating agreement and any amendments
- Resolution that specifically authorizes the project

For Partnerships

- Partnership agreement and any amendments
- Resolution that specially authorizes the project

**Note:** As mentioned earlier under “Eligibility for Cost-Share Grant” (p. 1), 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.

## **Application Checklist - Documents Attached with Your Application**

Please indicate which of the following documents you have attached with your application (by placing a check in the box next to each item you have attached):

- Agricultural deed restriction for the land on which the deer fence will be installed (if the farm was not preserved through an SADC Farmland Preservation Program)
- Map showing the proposed fence project, including 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 brace assemblies
  - The location of any existing deer fencing
  - All known rights of way within 50 feet of the proposed fence
- Documentation showing the extent of crop damage (crop insurance claims or other)
- Written cost quote for the deer fencing project, including the following:
  - Cost of materials and labor if the deer fencing will be installed by someone other than the established farmer; or
  - Cost of materials to be installed by the established farmer
- NJDEP depredation permits (or denial letters) within the last three years
- Discharge papers (showing status as a military veteran farmer)
- Farm conservation plan that addresses soil and water resources for the area to be fenced; (or) Documentation showing that applicant has requested a plan
- Woodland Management Plan or Forest Stewardship Plan (signed copy of plan that includes deer fencing as a recommended management practice), if applicant is proposing to fence at least five acres of woodland for woodland management purposes; (or) Documentation showing that applicant has requested a plan
- Letter of support from a Rutgers Cooperative Extension agent
- Documents (required if applicant is a cooperative, corporation, partnership, or joint venture) to confirm applicant's eligibility as an established farmer:
  - a. Copies of Internal Revenue Service forms Schedule F, 1120S, or 1065 for the three most recent tax years; and
  - b. Gross farm income for the three most recent tax years.
- Documentation showing that the person signing the application (on p. 10) has signature authority on behalf of the cooperative, corporation, partnership, or joint venture

**Agreement**

I hereby request a Farmland Stewardship Deer Fencing Program cost-share grant for a project to install deer fencing 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 have included on p. 4 of this application the number of linear feet of deer fencing I plan to install and the number of acres I plan to fence.

I certify that I own the farmland noted in this application and that I am an established farmer. The statements presented in this application are accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

I understand that only applications that are complete, with the necessary information and attachments, will be reviewed for approval. If my application is deemed incomplete, I understand it is my responsibility to provide any missing information or attachments to make it complete.

If my application is approved, I agree to watch the SADC’s deer fence installation training video or complete an SADC-approved deer fencing installation training prior to installing the fence, and I agree to commence 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. If I wish to deviate from these standards and specifications, I understand I must seek and get approval from the SADC in writing, in advance, before conducting the fencing installation work. 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 that addresses soil and water resources for the area to be fenced.

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Signature

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Date

**Please submit completed applications by mail, email, or fax:**

State Agriculture Development Committee  
PO Box 330  
369 S. Market St.  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0330  
[sadc@ag.nj.gov](mailto:sadc@ag.nj.gov) / Fax: (609) 633-2004  
Phone: (609) 984-2504

**Email Submission Notes:** There are two ways to submit your application via email:  
1) Click the Submit button, which will create a draft email with a PDF attachment of your completed form. Then attach your other documents, and send the email.  
2) Save your form, attach the form and other documents to an email, and send the email.

**Map Example**

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

