

## Natural Areas Stewardship Grant - Project Narrative – 2026

Conservation Land Trust name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Project Summary

Provide a brief description of the proposed project and why the stewardship action(s) was/were chosen among the other actions identified in the Management Schedule(s). If applicant is seeking equipment and/or supplies, define the primary site(s) where equipment will be stored and used. Listing all potential sites where the equipment/supplies may be used is not encouraged.

### Conservation Land Trust Summary

Provide a brief overview of the Conservation Land Trust applying for this grant, including how the organization's purpose aligns with the Conservation Land Trust definition in the [Illinois Natural Areas Stewardship Act](#).

### Capacity/Leveraging

How will this grant funding increase the capacity to do stewardship for this particular project and in the future? What other nonfinancial resources, such as personnel, volunteers, equipment, or supplies are available to support successful completion of the project?

### Site Information

- For applicants seeking equipment and/or supplies, list the primary site(s) where the equipment will be stored and used only. Note: Work on land owned by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources is discouraged unless the qualifying and/or significant feature receiving work crosses an IDNR boundary and inclusion of the IDNR portion of the feature is critical for the success of the stewardship project. Other exceptions may be considered by the grant reviewers.

Site Name (Official Name from INPC documents)	Landowner, if <b>not</b> the applicant*	Date of expiration for current management schedule

\*If applicant is not the landowner, see Supplemental Document Checklist.

**Qualifying Features**

For each site, provide a brief description of why the site was dedicated or registered by the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission. Applicants should summarize the qualifying and/or significant features present on each site.

Site Name	Qualifying and/or Significant Features Present

**Stewardship Action Summary**

For each site, provide a list of stewardship actions proposed, the mechanism to complete each action, and the method of how that activity will be performed with grant funds. Mechanisms may include any eligible expenses, such as contractual services, staff time, equipment purchase, or other (if used, please describe). Methods must be approved in the site’s Management Schedule. If applicant is seeking equipment and/or supplies, define primary site(s) and use only.

Example:

Site	Stewardship Action	Mechanism (Eligible Expense)	Method
Site A	Honeysuckle removal	Contractual services	Hand cutting and spraying with herbicide
	Prescribed fire	Purchase UTV	Staff will use the purchased UTV to complete dormant season burn

Provide a map for each site that identifies the location of each stewardship action listed above.

**Expected Outcomes and Benefits:**

Briefly describe the anticipated outcome of the project at maintaining or improving the conditions of the qualifying and/or significant features at the site(s) proposed and the urgency of need.

**Additional Benefits:**

Briefly describe any additional project benefits to implementing the following:

- [Illinois Natural Areas Plan](#) by preventing unnatural disturbances and restoring ecological processes, and/or the
- [Illinois Sustainable Natural Areas Vision](#) by contributing to a sustainable, connected system of natural areas, and/or

- [Illinois Wildlife Action Plan](#) through stewardship support to habitats for Species of Greatest Conservation Need, including species listed as threatened or endangered in Illinois.

**Statement of ability to complete work within the grant period**

All applicants selected for funding are expected to complete the proposed project within two years of execution of the grant agreement. Provide a brief statement about the Conservation Land Trust’s ability to complete the proposed work within the timeframe and budget proposed.

**Conflict of Interest Disclosure**

Is the applicant aware of any potential conflict of interest between IDNR staff, the landowner, the applicant and/or its governance board and/or staff members?    Yes    No

If yes, disclose the potential conflict of interest and action taken by the applicant to resolve the conflict.

**Supplemental Document Checklist:**

- Copy of executed agreement between the applicant and the landowner (if applicable)
- Copy of notification of executed agreement to Commission (if applicable)
- Maps for each site that identify the location of proposed activities
- Copy of approved Management Schedule for each site included in the Project Narrative