

CORNERS FOR WILDLIFE

ESTABLISHING HIGH-QUALITY HABITAT ON PIVOT CORNERS



Program Overview

Corners For Wildlife (CFW) offers incentives to establish new wildlife habitat on center pivot corners. Participants will apply specific wildlife and pollinator conservation practices to benefit pheasants, quail, grassland songbirds, monarch butterflies, native bees, and other wildlife. Additionally, the program aims to reduce soil losses, encourage soil health, and conserve water.

Program Highlights

- Groundwater conservation
- Wildlife habitat improvement
- 75% cost-share for establishment
- 5-year contract with annual payment up to \$100/acre



A DRYLAND OF OPPORTUNITY



A PIVOTAL ROLE IN CONSERVATION



SEEING THE BIGGER PICTURE

Pivot irrigation has brought significant gains to Nebraska cropland acres. However, the outlying dryland areas are not as productive. For some, planting perennial cover on pivot corners is a great way to save money and improve ground. Strategic management also contributes to groundwater conservation.

Since 1995, the widely-successful Corners for Wildlife program has enrolled over 2,000 projects, which provide 15,000+ acres of diverse habitat for wildlife. Plus, nearly 723,000 trees and shrubs have been planted to reduce wind erosion and provide protective cover for wildlife.

A single pivot corner seems insignificant. However, on a landscape level, wildlife-friendly farming practices can make a meaningful impact on pheasant, quail, and other wildlife populations. In intensively farmed areas, Corners for Wildlife may be the only undisturbed habitat available.

Eligible Land

Corners for Wildlife projects must be located on or adjacent to a center pivot irrigation field. Enrolled acres are seeded with a high-quality grass and wildflower seed mix to provide habitat for pheasants, quail, grassland songbirds, and pollinators. Participants also have the option to plant native shrub thickets. Corners for Wildlife enrolls new pivot corners each year to help maximize wildlife benefits across the state.

Contract Length

Contracts for land enrolled in Corners for Wildlife are 5 years in length and cannot be renewed after expiration.

Payments

Nebraska Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever provides 75% cost-share for planting materials (seed mix and shrubs). Participants are responsible for site preparation, no-till drill establishment, annual maintenance, and weed control. Additional cost-share opportunities may be available from participating NRDs and local chapters. In exchange for establishing wildlife habitat, participants receive an annual payment for each year of the 5-year CFW contract. Contract payments are based on the selected conservation practice: \$60/acre for grass and wildflower habitat establishment; \$100/acre if shrub thickets are included.

Enrollment and More Information

Please complete and return a Notice of Interest form if you wish to join us in creating habitat for wildlife. Submitting a form does not guarantee acceptance into the Corners for Wildlife program. You will be contacted by Pheasants Forever when funding is available to verify your interest in the program and complete a program contract. Funds for CFW contracts are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information about Pheasants Forever and its programs, visit our website at NebraskaPF.com or contact your local Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist.