

New Jersey Audubon is a conservation non-profit committed to making New Jersey a better place for people and wildlife.

Our Healthy Land and Waters Grant provides farmers and landowners technical and financial assistance to protect natural resources while enhancing wildlife habitat to achieve important conservation goals.

Interested landowners are encouraged to apply. New Jersey Audubon staff will conduct a site visit to discuss the landowner/operators' challenges and goals. Applicants will receive a detailed trip report identifying opportunities and recommendations to achieve those objectives identified at the site. A proposed project map and additional information of local partners to assist with implementation, will be included, as well as an opportunity for financial assistance through the grant.



You may qualify for financial assistance if located within the following focal areas. Our Healthy Land and Waters Grants are adapted year to year, and focal areas are subject to change. Interested landowners should contact us to determine their eligibility!



NEW JERSEY AUDUBON'S
HEALTHY LAND
and WATERS
GRANTS



Contact Us

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NEW JERSEY
AUDUBON

Restoring Wetlands for Bog Turtles

The bog turtle is the official state reptile of New Jersey and is considered federally threatened and state endangered. This small, secretive turtle inhabits open, freshwater wetlands with mucky soils and a wide range of plants that provide food and a place to nest, bask, and overwinter.

Landowners in Salem County who may have suitable or occupied bog turtle habitat can help restore these wetlands while promoting sustainable practices, reducing flood waters, and increasing water filtration. Through our Healthy Land and Waters Grant, interested landowners may receive assistance for:

- **PRESCRIBED GRAZING**
- **LIVESTOCK FENCING**
- **INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT**
- **SELECT TREE THINNING**
- **NATIVE PLANT ESTABLISHMENT**
- **STREAMBANK STABILIZATION**
- **AND MORE!**

By restoring habitat for bog turtle, you can help make your wetlands work for you and for wildlife!



Protecting Natural Resources on Working Lands

The Healthy Land and Waters Grant supports best management practices to reduce soil erosion, improve water quality, and enhance wildlife habitat on working lands. Select practices are eligible for financial assistance within focal areas highlighted in maps below.

- **COVER CROPS**
- **RESIDUE TILLAGE MANAGEMENT**
- **FILTER STRIPS**
- **FIELD BORDERS**
- **ACCESS CONTROL FENCE**
- **CONSERVATION COVER**

Cover crops reduce soil erosion, increase soil organic matter and water infiltration, suppress weeds, and provide habitat to beneficial microorganisms. Cover crops can be adapted to any crop rotation and serve a suite of conservation needs. Coupling this practice with reduced tillage activities builds soil health for more productive, resilient working lands.

Consider converting odd areas of the farm to permanent, locally native cover to provide beneficial habitat to pollinators and wildlife. Our grants can help cover the cost of plant material and provide guidance for planting and maintenance.



Enhancing Wildlife Habitat

Wildflowers and grasses provide important habitat to beneficial insects and can address several conservation needs on the farm. Flowering trees and shrubs provide nectar and pollen resources in early spring, while berries and seeds sustain migratory wildlife in the fall.

Deep, fibrous roots increase infiltration and hold soil in place. These plantings can provide visual field borders, shelter from wind, and create vegetative buffers to sensitive wetlands or streams. Native plantings can be incorporated into:

- **WINDBREAKS AND HEDGEROWS**
- **RESTING GROUND**
- **FIELD BORDERS OR BUFFER STRIPS**
- **HIGH VALUE PLANTS IN A COVER CROP MIX**

Non-native Invasive Plant Removal and Restoration with Native Species

Invasive plants reduce the ecological value on the landscape and threaten the survival of native plants. Restoring an area to native cover can reestablish the ecological function of your property with conservation benefits! New Jersey Audubon can tailor an eradication schedule to meet your goals and objectives and may be able to assist with treatment!

Forestry + Atlantic White Cedar

The Atlantic white cedar is in decline across its range. This unique habitat is important for water quality and supports a variety of rare species. Our work compliments The New Jersey Forest Service' goal to restore 10,000 acres of Atlantic white cedar wetlands on state lands over 10 years. New Jersey Audubon will assist private landowners with cedar restoration on their properties.

Restoring Atlantic White Cedar Wetlands

Restoration activities are outlined in a Forest Stewardship Plan. This is a process to assess forest health and prescribes management activities according to the landowner's goals. Plans are written by a state approved forester and are written for a 10-year management period.

Select thinning and brush management

Atlantic white cedar trees need abundant sunlight to germinate. Managing brush in the understory and culling undesirable species can give cedar the resources it needs to regenerate.

For more information on this initiative, and to see if your property qualifies, contact Danielle Bara.
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