

LANDOWNER RESOURCES DIRECTORY



**A comprehensive guide of
resources to help you achieve
your land management goals**

Updated June 2026

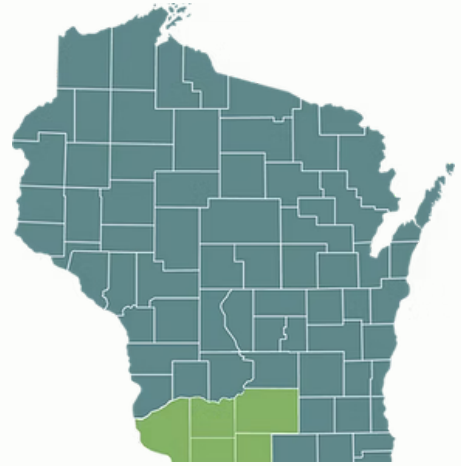
WELCOME TO YOUR LAND CONSERVATION JOURNEY

ABOUT SDG

Welcome to Southern Driftless Grasslands (SDG). We are a partnership of non-profit organizations and governmental agencies working together to stabilize and increase grasslands in Southwest Wisconsin.

We work in five counties: Lafayette, Iowa, Green, Grant, and Dane (see green counties on map).

Since the region consists of 95% privately owned land, conservation starts with you, the landowner. Join us in making our vision a reality.



Counties in green signify the SDG service territory.

PURPOSE

At SDG, our job is to support and empower you. We connect you with the people and resources essential for achieving your conservation and land management goals.

This directory is designed to help you discover regional resources and identify opportunities to help guide your land management journey.

HERE TO HELP!

If you have any questions, please contact SDG Partnership Coordinator, Andy Bingle at andy@driftlessconservancy.org or (970) 406-0333.



Visit driftlessgrasslands.org to learn more.



Cover photo: Andy Bingle

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YOU ARE A LEGEND.

...BUT HERE IS ONE MORE

Throughout this directory you will see some of the resources with an icon by their name. This legend displays each icon and indicates some of the potential services included under each classification.



Community Network: A community that you can be a part of and contribute to - a great way to connect with others and learn!



Technical Assistance: These organizations offer technical assistance with different topics. This can include a site visit and is usually the first step to explore cost-share opportunities right for your land.



Cost-Share Programs: These are programs that help pay for land management activities. Think funding for a new fence for grazing, seed for pollinator plantings, or clearing brush under oak savanna.



Resources: These organizations provide a wealth of information that can be accessed through the internet or by connecting with a knowledgeable expert in the field.



Note: Resources and contacts may change throughout the year. Funding and technical assistance may not be available at times.

MANAGED GRAZING



Grassland 2.0 is working toward agriculture that functions more like the original prairie-savanna complex of southwest Wisconsin. Well-managed grazing of perennial grasslands and savannas improves water quality, soil health, biodiversity, and climate resilience, while supporting profitable farming and highly nutritious products. grasslandag.org



GrassWorks, Inc. connects farmers with resources to be successful graziers. grassworks.org



SDG Managed Grazing Working Group hosts pasture walks throughout the SDG service area and can connect you with grazing plan writers in your area. <https://www.driftlessgrasslands.org/events>

Katie Abbott, Iowa County Conservationist

katherine.abbott@iowacounty.org | 608-930-9891



National Audubon Society Conservation Ranching Program partners with farmers and ranchers to stabilize grassland bird populations by certifying land that meets habitat, sustainability, and animal welfare standards, helping consumers support biodiversity. Certified lands earn the Audubon Certified bird-friendly label featuring a special product seal and can utilize technical assistance from range ecologists. audubon.org/our-work/prairies-and-forests/ranching

Krysten Zummo, Range Ecologist

krysten.zummo@audubon.org | (631) 813-0045

Ashly Steinke, WI Grassland Ecologist

ashly.steinke@audubon.org | (715) 579-6355



Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development

Council, Inc. works across county lines to address large-scale environmental issues in a manner that protects both the environment and the economy. They offer technical assistance, grazing plan writing, and educational events for landowners and livestock producers. <https://www.goldensandsrccd.org/managed-grazing>

Robert Bauer, Grazing Specialist

robert.bauer@goldensandsrccd.org | 608-379-4759

MANAGED GRAZING (CONT.)



The Sand County Foundation (SCF) works with farmers, ranchers, and forestland owners to support healthy soil, clean water, and wildlife habitat. In southwest Wisconsin, SCF develops grazing plans for landowners and participates in the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Grassland Resilience and Conservation Initiative. www.sandcountyfoundation.org

Briana Schnelle, Agricultural Conservation Specialist
bschnelle@sandcountyfoundation.org | (608) 630 3470

PRAIRIES & POLLINATORS



Blue Mounds Area Project (BMAP) connects landowners with community conservation resources to better manage their properties to preserve native ecosystems. bluemounds.org

Sam Anderson, Outreach Ecologist
ecologist@bluemounds.org



The Prairie Enthusiasts (TPE) protects and restores prairies, oak ecosystems, and other fire-dependent remnants. Local chapters host field trips, work parties and workshops. Landowners who are members of TPE may request a site visit from our staff ecologist. Availability is limited. ThePrairieEnthusiasts.org

TPE Chapters in SDG Region:

Dane County - Empire Sauk Chapter

Iowa & Grant Counties - Southwest Chapter

Lafayette & Green Counties - Prairie Bluff Chapter



The Xerces Society provides region-specific publications and resources for creating and maintaining beneficial insect habitat. Free native plants or prairie seeds are also available for farmers and ranchers through the Wisconsin Habitat Kit Program. xerces.org/pollinator-resource-center/great-lakes

Kathryn Prince, Pollinator Conservation Specialist
kathryn.prince@xerces.org

REGENERATIVE & ORGANIC FOOD SYSTEMS



MARBLESEED supports the Midwest's regenerative and organic farmers with farmer-led events and educational resources. marbleseed.org

MAKING THE MOST OF MY CROP LAND



Pheasants Forever has precision ag specialists who use farm specific data to identify where management changes and conservation programs can improve the profitability of low-yielding areas. Changes implemented as a result of this analysis are beneficial for wildlife habitat, building soil health, increasing water quality, and improving sustainability.

pheasantsforever.org/conservation/precision-agriculture.aspx

Scott Stipetich, WI Precision & Conservation Specialist
[sstipetich@pheasantsforever.org](mailto:ssstipetich@pheasantsforever.org) | (715) 209-4846



UW Extension: The Extension Agriculture Institute is your connection to the latest University of Wisconsin-Madison research in six program areas: Agriculture, Water Quality, Crops and Soils, Dairy and Livestock, Farm Management, and Horticulture. Browse subjects and locate your local agriculture educator by program and county at extension.wisc.edu/agriculture

WILDLIFE HABITAT & CONSERVATION



US Fish and Wildlife Service Partners for Fish and Wildlife (PFW) Program is a voluntary, incentive-based program that provides direct technical assistance and financial assistance in the form of cooperative agreements to private landowners to restore and conserve fish and wildlife habitat.

<https://www.fws.gov/program/partners-fish-and-wildlife>

**Caitlin Nagorka, Wisconsin Assistant State Coordinator/
Acting State Coordinator**

caitlin_nagorka@fws.gov | (715) 781-4104



Note: PFW cost-share applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.



Pheasant Forever (PF) Farm Bill Biologists can answer your Farm Bill program questions and provide technical assistance for habitat work on private lands including (but not limited to) prairies, oak savannas, and grassland management.

Iowa, Grant & Lafayette Counties:

Britta Petersen

bpetersen@pheasantsforever.org

(715) 566-1736

Dane & Green Counties:

Rocco Delmedico

rdelmedico@pheasantsforever.org

(608) 504-2013



Photo: Andy Bingle

FORESTS & WOODLANDS



American Bird Conservancy (ABC) foresters assist landowners in Dane county to navigate NRCS programs that benefit oak ecosystems.

Jordan Winkenbach, Great Lakes Oak Ecosystem Coordinator

jwinkenbach@abcbirds.org | (630) 272-7346



My Wisconsin Woods connects WI woodland owners with information, services, and trained professionals to care for their woods. My Wisconsin Woods is a partnership of public agencies and private organizations led by the Aldo Leopold Foundation and the WDNR.

mywisconsinwoods.org

Find your forester at:

mywisconsinwoods.org/services/property-visit/foresters



Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Service Foresters offer woodland walk-throughs, cost-sharing assistance, forestry technical support, and manage the Wisconsin Forest Landowner Grant Program (WFLGP). WFLGP funding is available for forest landowners owning more than 10 contiguous acres. A Forest Management Plan must be in place. Forest and savanna restoration practices can be covered by this program. Contact your WDNR Forester below for more information.

dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/forestlandowners

WDNR Contacts in SDG Region:

- **Dane and Green Counties -**
Landin Brockman, DNR Service Forester
landin.brockman@wisconsin.gov | (608) 815-5480
- **Grant County -**
Aidan Schmitt, DNR Service Forester
aidan.schmitt@wisconsin.gov | (608) 391-4695
- **Iowa and Lafayette Counties -**
Ross DeWitt, DNR Service Forester
ross.dewitt@wisconsin.gov | (608) 516-1311

WETLANDS



Pheasants Forever (PF) has wetland easement biologists who enroll land into the NRCS permanent conservation easement program (ACEP-WRE). They are also involved with the initial restoration and long-term management of the wildlife habitat on these easements.

Nate Fore, Pheasants Forever Wetland Easement Biologist
nfore@pheasantsforever.org | (608) 475-3316



Wisconsin Wetlands Association (WWA) offers science-based programs, education, and advocacy for wetlands and associated ecosystems. wisconsinwetlands.org/for-landowners



Photo: Angie Buelow

SOUTHWEST WI WATERSHED GROUPS



Lafayette Ag Stewardship Alliance is a community of farmers and agriculture supporters working together to protect and improve water quality and the environment. lafayetteagstewardship.org

lafayetteagstewardship@gmail.com



Iowa County Uplands Watershed Group is a community of farmers, landowners, and resource specialists focused on improving farming practices to reduce soil and nutrient loss through polluted farm runoff in this hilly part of the state. michaelfields.org/uplands

Katie Abbott, Iowa County Conservationist
katherine.abbott@iowacounty.org | (608) 930-9893



Upper Sugar River Watershed Association offers regional support by promoting resource improvement through strategic partnerships that benefit the watershed's land, water, and people. uppersugar.org

info@uppersugar.org | (608) 437-7707

Photo: Dan Carter



COUNTY LAND & WATER CONSERVATION DEPARTMENTS



County Land & Water Conservation Departments

work to achieve conservation objectives based on the needs of their county. They provide educational, technical, and financial assistance to help farmers and other landowners control soil erosion; protect lakes, streams and groundwater; and manage wildlife habitat. Find your county contact below:

DANE COUNTY LAND & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

5201 Fen Oak Drive, Room 208
Madison, WI 53718

lwr.danecounty.gov/what-we-do/agriculture/conservation-funding-opportunities

Katie Nicholas, Conservation Specialist

nicholas.katie@danecounty.gov | (608) 228-6219

GRANT COUNTY CONSERVATION, SANITATION, & ZONING DEPARTMENT

150 W Alona Lane Lancaster, WI 53813

<https://gcinternetwebsite.co.grant.wi.gov/conservation-sanitation-and-zoning-2/>

Keith Lane, Administrator of Conservation, Planning & Zoning

klane@co.grant.wi.gov | (608) 723-6080



Photo: Cindy Becker

GREEN COUNTY LAND & WATER CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

1627 4th Ave West Monroe, WI 53566
greencountywcd.com

Todd Jenson, Conservationist
todd.jenson@wi.nacdn.net | (608) 325-4195

IOWA COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

303 W Chapel St, Suite 2100 Dodgeville, WI 53533
www.iowacountywi.gov/departments/landconservation

Katie Abbott, Iowa County Conservationist
katherine.abbott@iowacounty.org | (608) 930-9893

LAFAYETTE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION, PLANNING, & ZONING DEPARTMENT

700 Main St. Darlington, WI 53530
lafayettecountywi.org/lcpz/page/land-conservation

Erica Sauer, Conservation, Planning & Zoning Manager
erica.sauer@lafayettecountywi.org | (608) 776-3836



Photo: Andy Bingle

USDA: FSA & NRCS PROGRAMS

The Farm Bill is a piece of legislation that sets the foundation for many programs run by the **United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)**. The **Farm Service Agency (FSA)** and **Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)** are two federal agencies that work with farmers, ranchers, and landowners to implement conservation practices.



The Farm Service Agency (FSA) supports agricultural producers and other private landowners by offering a variety of farm loans, price supports, and disaster relief and conservation programs. An example of one program FSA offers is the **Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)**. <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/state-offices/wisconsin>



The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) works with landowners on private lands to conserve natural resources. NRCS provides farmers, ranchers, and woodland landowners with financial and technical assistance to voluntarily put conservation on the ground. Examples include reducing erosion, conserving and protecting water, and restoring and creating wildlife habitat. The **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)** and the **Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)** are examples of two programs that NRCS offers. <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/state-offices/wisconsin>

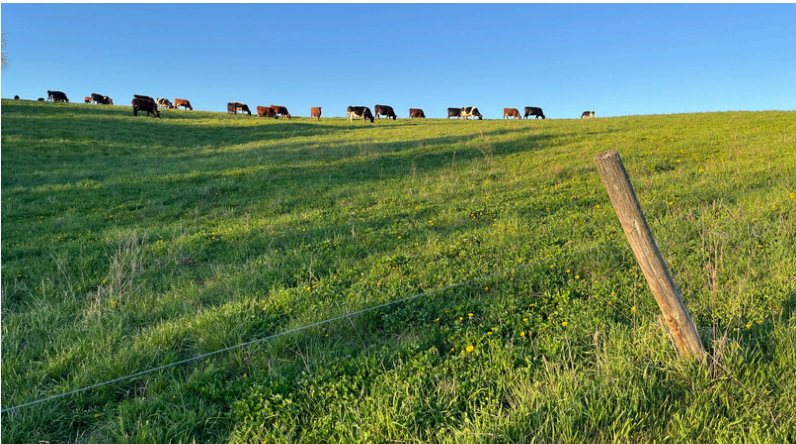


Photo: Andy Bingle

FSA & NRCS: CONTACTS & LOCATIONS

DANE COUNTY SERVICE CENTER

5201 Fen Oak Drive
Madison, WI 53718

Dane County FSA -
fsa.madison@usda.gov
(608) 224-3767

Dane County NRCS -
Brooke Lerum
brook.lerum@usda.gov
(608) 224-3750 ext. 8518

GRANT COUNTY SERVICE CENTER

150 W Alona Lane
Lancaster, WI 53813

Grant County FSA -
fsa.lancaster@usda.gov
(608) 723-7697

Grant County NRCS -
Matt Miller
matthew.miller2@usda.gov
(608) 935-2791

GREEN COUNTY SERVICE CENTER

1627 4th Ave W
Monroe, WI 53566

Green County FSA -
fsa.monroe@usda.gov
(608) 325-4195, ext. 2

Green County NRCS -
Jason Thomas
jason.thomas@usda.gov
(608) 325-4195, ext. 3

IOWA COUNTY USDA SERVICE CENTER

1124 Professional Drive, Suite
100
Dodgeville, WI 53533

Iowa County FSA -
fsa.dodgeville@usda.gov
(608) 935-2791, ext. 2

Iowa County NRCS -
Matt Miller
matthew.miller2@usda.gov
(608) 935-2791

LAFAYETTE COUNTY SERVICE CENTER

1900 Ervin Johnson Drive
Darlington, WI 53530

Lafayette County FSA -
fsa.darlington@usda.gov
(608) 776-4028, ext. 2

Lafayette County NRCS -
Jason Thomas
jason.thomas@usda.gov
(608) 776-4028, ext. 3

GENERAL LAND CONSERVATION RESOURCES



Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) offers resources, technical assistance and financial support through grants to producers.

datcp.wi.gov/pages/programs_services/lwcoverview.aspx



Michael Fields Agricultural Institute offers assistance with grant writing and develops networks of agricultural producers to connect with each other and learn. michaelfields.org



Natural Resources Foundation of WI (NRF) protects Wisconsin's lands, waters, and wildlife by providing funding, leading partnerships, and connecting all people with nature. Explore grants, field trips, and more at wisconservation.org.



Wisconsin Farmers Union (WFU) is a member-driven organization committed to enhancing the quality of life for family farmers, rural communities, and all people through educational opportunities, cooperative endeavors, and civic engagement. Find your local chapter at: wisconsinfarmersunion.com



Wisconsin Women in Conservation (WiWC) brings together women landowners in Wisconsin to connect and learn about conservation practices, resources, and funding opportunities. Their motto? Nurturing Land. Nurturing Ourselves. Working together for a brighter future. wiwic.org



The Nature Conservancy (TNC) conserves the lands and waters on which all life depends. In Wisconsin, TNC protects over 240,000 acres of lakes, forests, rivers, and prairies. Learn more about TNC's preserves, community work, and volunteering opportunities at nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/united-states/wisconsin.

BIRDS



Southern Wisconsin Bird Alliance (SoWBA) works to protect and improve habitat for birds and other wildlife through land acquisition and management, education, and advocacy. swibirds.org



Wisconsin Society of Ornithology (WSO) promotes the enjoyment, study, and conservation of Wisconsin's birds. WSO welcomes all birders, no matter the skill level, and offers opportunities for the study and enjoyment of birds through on-line resources, field events, gatherings, and community. wsobirds.org

PRESCRIBED FIRE



Pheasants Forever (PF) hosts prescribed burn workshops and community learn-to-burn opportunities for private landowners in Southwest Wisconsin. PF also connects landowners to regional landowner led Prescribed Burn Associations (PBAs). Contact Olivia to find a PBA near you or to find out how to start one yourself. pheasantsforever.org

Olivia Horton-Pacana, Conservation Outreach Coordinator
ohorton-pacana@pheasantsforever.org



Wisconsin Prescribed Fire Council (WPFC) helps landowners incorporate prescribed burning into their restoration and management through training and resources. prescribedfire.org

Kristina Weld, Training Specialist
training@prescribedfire.org



The Prairie Enthusiasts (TPE) offer prescribed burn training and volunteer opportunities. theprairieenthusiasts.org/our-work/what-we-do/prescribed-burning/

Rob Schubert, Land Manager
rshubert@theprairieenthusiasts.org

Photo: Heartwood Farms



FARM SUCCESSION PLANNING



American Farmland Trust (AFT) provides farmers and farmland owners with holistic, one-on-one support through no-cost land succession planning services. Land Transfer Navigators can help landowners create a succession plan, realize transfer goals, and connect with legal and financial experts. Connect with a Navigator at <https://farmland.org/midwest-land-transfer-navigators>

Anna Sekine, Midwest Farmland Associate

asekine@farmland.org

(765) 575-7247



Renewing the Countryside supports farmers in farmland access and farm succession planning by providing personalized technical support, sharing impactful tools and resources, and connecting farmland owners with farmland buyers/renters

https://www.renewingthecountryside.org/farm_transitions

Bonnie Warndahl, Farmland Access & Transition Specialist

bonnie@rtcinfo.org

(612) 462-9311



Photo: Andy Bingle

LAND TRUSTS



Driftless Area Land Conservancy (DALC) works throughout southwest Wisconsin to conserve diverse habitats, clean water, working lands, and open spaces primarily through conservation easements on private land. driftlessconservancy.org

Stephanie Judge, Conservation Director
stephanie@driftlessconservancy.org | (608) 930-3252



Southern Wisconsin Land Conservancy (SWLC) works with landowners to protect natural areas and working farms. SWLC serves Green, Rock, southern Dane, SE Lafayette and SE Grant counties. swconservancy.org

Aryn Swann, Executive Director
swlc@threewatersreserve.com



Groundswell Conservancy wants everyone to live in a world filled with green places where communities thrive. Groundswell Conservancy works in Dane County and the surrounding region of southcentral Wisconsin. groundswellconservancy.org

Tony Abate, Conservation Director
tony@groundswellconservancy.org



The Prairie Enthusiasts (TPE) work throughout southwest Wisconsin with landowners, farmers and other organizations to save prairie and oak savanna remnants. theprairieenthusiasts.org/about-us/our-chapters/southwest-area

info@theprairieenthusiasts.org



Mississippi Valley Conservancy (MVC) is on a mission to conserve native habitats and farmlands for the health and well-being of Wisconsin's Driftless Area. In the SDG region they service Grant County.

Chris Kirpatrick, Conservation Manager
chris@mississippivalleyconservancy.org
(608) 784-3606 ext. 9

Photo: Sand County Foundation



CONTRACTORS AND SEED VENDORS

*List provided in alphabetical order and without endorsement or recommendations for hire.

Adaptive Restoration, LLC | (608) 554-0411 |
adaptive.restoration@gmail.com | adaptiverestoration.com

Eco-Resource Consulting, Inc. (ERC) | (608) 877-9372 | eco-resource.net

EC3 Environmental Consulting Group Inc. | (608) 497-0955
| info@ec3grp.com | ec3grp.com

Good Oak Ecological Services | (608) 209-0607 | info@goodoak.com |
goodoak.com

HaakHagen Goat Grazing, LLC | (608) 577-3028 |
haakhagengoats@gmail.com | haakhagengoats.com

Indigenous Restorations, LLC | (608) 513-9638 | indigenous@tds.net |
indigenousrestorations.com

Integrated Restorations, LLC | (608) 424-6997 | annen00@aol.com |
ir-wi.com

Jensen Ecology | (608) 630-1651 | jens@jensenecology.com |
jensenecology.com

Open Oaks Land Services, LLC | (608) 400-2432 |
openoakslandservices@gmail.com | openoakslandservices.com

OZ Ecology and Fire Management LLC | (517) 262-4495 |
zachary@ozecology.com | ozecology.com

Quercus Land Stewardship Services | (608) 767-3553 | office@quercus-
ls.com | quercuslandstewardship.com

Resource Environmental Solutions (RES) | res.us/home/contact-us/

Vegetation Solutions, LLC | (715) 347-7196

For **native plant and seed vendors** see the Iowa County Land Conservation Department's directory at tinyurl.com/NativePlantsAndSeeds

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driftlessgrasslands.org