The Tallgrass Prairie Center is a regional leader that shares knowledge of prairie reconstruction and management techniques.

**PRAIRIE ON FARMS PROGRAM**

I. Demonstration sites designed for learning about prairie establishment, particularly prairie strips in row-cropped fields.

II. Technology transfer through field days, events, informational guides, case studies, and online resources.

III. Meetings with diverse agricultural and conservation stakeholders to identify and address areas of greatest importance.

RESOURCES

- **Tallgrass Prairie Center**
  https://www.tallgrassprairiecenter.org
  Seed and service providers lists, seed mix calculator, prairie how-to videos, post-seeding management, and more

- **Iowa State University STRIPS**
  http://www.prairiestrips.org
  A landowner’s guide to prairie strips, FAQs, technical research, additional guidance, cost of prairie strips information, and more

- **Natural Resources Conservation Service and Farm Service Agency**
  https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/ia/programs
  https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/ia/newsroom/factsheets
  Talk with your local NRCS office about approved management practices and cost-share options for your planting

QUESTIONS? For more information, contact:

- Prairie on Farms Program Manager
  319-273-3828

- Research and Restoration Program Manager
  Justin Meissen
  justin.meissen@uni.edu
  319-273-7957

Past and Current Funders:

- The University of Northern Iowa, Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture, Iowa Nutrient Research Center, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Iowa Economic Development Authority, The New York Community Trust, North Central Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Collaborators:
  - Iowa State University STRIPS project, Borlaug Learning Center ISU, Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever, Monarch Joint Venture, Women Food and Agriculture Network, AmeriCorps Land and Water Stewards, ISU Extension, The Xerces Society, The Sand County Foundation, Practical Farmers of Iowa, Hertz Farm Management, Peoples Company, and Iowa Watershed Approach

PRAIRIE BENEFITS FOR LANDOWNERS

FOR HEALTHY SOILS, CLEAN WATER, AND WILDLIFE HABITAT
Studies at one Iowa site show converting only 10% of row crop acres into strategically placed perennial prairie strips can provide significant and multiple benefits for land and water (ISU STRIPS Team). Deep-rooted native grasses and wildflowers are adapted to Iowa; natives can tolerate heavy rainfall or periods of drought at any time of the year.

Prairies provide native habitat for wildlife.

Prairie adapts to wide ranges of soil and moisture conditions, especially poorly and excessively drained soils.

Perennial vegetation, when used strategically, can reduce erosion and intercept water flow, while also keeping the adjacent land farmable.

Evidence shows prairie roots do not plug tile in upland plantings (ISU STRIPS Team) even though they have deep root systems that anchor soil in place and help mitigate flood erosion.

Prairie will not invade crop fields and will suppress weeds.

Historically, tallgrass prairie covered 85% of Iowa. Today, less than 1/10th of 1% (or 0.001%) of remnant prairies remain in small fragments across the state.