

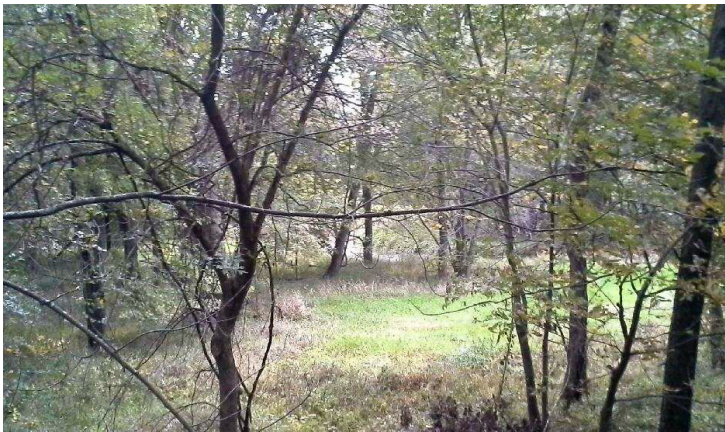
# Easement Landowner Profile

Charles Poeltler  
Muscatine County



Charles Poeltler enrolled 271 acres of former flood-prone Muscatine County cropland in the Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) in 1998. A few years later, he enrolled another 162 acres into WRP.

“I wanted to find long-term protection for the ground,” said Poeltler. “This land was never viable farm ground, so having income for the property up-front was a welcome bonus on top of gaining pristine hunting ground.”



*Poeltler enjoys hunting and other recreational activities in the mixture of trees and native plants and grasses on his WRP easements.*

## Recreational Enjoyment

Poeltler said the up-front payment helped cover maintenance needs for firebreaks and food plots on the easement to prepare for hunting season.

Poeltler said he enjoys owning a natural piece of land that benefits all wildlife, such as deer, turkey, pheasants, quail, and waterfowl. “Much of my family are avid outdoorsmen,” he said.

“The pride of ownership is a joy in itself,” said Poeltler. “We have a tight-knit group that utilizes the property

every hunting season, as well as for recreation and hiking the property.”

## Program Flexibility

Poeltler said his family has hosted multiple events down by the property, including family reunions and even a wedding.

“I also enjoy the flexibility that the WRP offers,” he said. “I like to keep busy by maintaining the firebreaks and planting and upkeeping the food plots.”

Poeltler said he really enjoys being an easement owner. “I get a sense of pride as a sole proprietor of a large amount of land that is natural and preserved,” he said. “I like that this land will never be farmed again and that it will only change for the better. It creates a better quality habitat for wildlife, and hopefully continues to provide an abundance of hunting and recreational opportunities for my family and friends.”



*A firebreak helps to control prescribed burns in this native planting.*