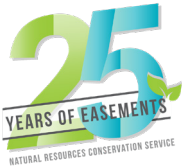


Easement Landowner Profile

Gabor Family Kossuth County



The Gabor Family recently enrolled 147 acres of marginal Kossuth County cropland into a Wetland Reserve Easement (WRE). They are working on closing the easement now, and if all stays on track, it will be restored beginning in 2019.

As an attorney, Mike Gabor says he has worked with landowners on easement closings since NRCS began restoring conservation easements 25 years ago. “Seeing the process and environmental benefits helped spur our interest,” he said.



Michael and Linda Gabor, and their two daughters Maren and Elyse, stand in what will be their restored 147-acre easement. They enrolled it through the ACEP-WRE in 2017.

“The land we own is marginal from a production standpoint and for that reason, it is probably better for both the market and environment that it be returned to its natural state,” said Mike.

In his role leading the local Pheasants Forever chapter, Mike says he has made a conscious effort to learn about and support easement programs.

“I see these easements providing several benefits,” he said. “They help with plant and habitat restoration, recreation such as hunting and fishing, conserving of natural resources, water quality, wildlife production, and commodity price stabilization.”

Mike says their family are outdoor and conservation enthusiasts. They plan to retain the easement and enjoy the recreation and hunting benefits, as well as wildlife viewing and water quality benefits.

“I’m looking forward to what this easement will mean to our family and the community,” he said. “I have already taken people to the site to enjoy the benefits of the easement. I am looking forward to the improved wildlife habitat once the restoration is complete.”

Mike said the NRCS staff made the enrollment process smooth. “The state and local staff who work with the program provide a good experience from start to finish,” he said. “They do a good job every step of the way. I am excited for the final restoration, which will only further enhance the existing habitat.”