



1. Overview of Ecological and Hydrological/Water Quality Benefits

- a. Minimizes footprint of development to level required for economic feasibility
- b. Maximizes habitat restoration, open space amenities
- c. Cleans runoff waters and reduces stormwater runoff volumes and rates by 80-95% over cropfield. This results in a greatly reduced /eliminated contribution to down stream flooding.
- d. Reduction in nutrients and eroded soils to downstream receiving waters contributes to improved channel stability, reduced erosion in downstream neighboring properties.
- e. Significant increases in grassland birds, wetland birds and migratory bird use will occur with the habitat improvements.
- f. Significant reduction in green house gas emissions will result from permanent, perennial grass/wildflower species planted in the open space system.
- g. Minimum lawn and formal landscaping to minimize lawn maintenance (mowing, fertilization, herbicide use, weed control, etc).
- h. Reduction to elimination of agricultural herbicides/pesticides and fertilizers with the conservation design and conversion of the farm land to native prairies, wetlands and oak savannas.
- i. Investment in pollinator habitat, perhaps one of the larger regional pollinator habitat plantings to improve pollinator survival/success.

2. Buffering Benefits of Termination View Landforming

- a. Terminal views will guide the eye of motorists and pedestrians and neighboring landowners to landformed features planted with native vegetation—bur oak trees, hack berry, and others growing among upland prairie landscapes. Terminal views created by landforming and vegetation will create continuity for the eye, contributing to aesthetically pleasing views and an “open” viewing rather than restrictive views created by normal perimeter berming.
- b. Integration of existing tree lines will be important to expanding on the benefits of the terminal view landforming and building berming. The tree lines contribute to breaking up the landform and also to the terminal views contributing to the aesthetic.

3. Beneficial Reuse of the Refurbished barn as a community building

- a. Can perhaps be used for community at large for events such as the dinner sponsored by the farm across the road.
- b. Preserving history and the rural farm vernacular aesthetic