# regenerative grazing: *the Basics & Beyond*

## A Free Online Interactive Education Series for Central Illinois

## Agricultural Educators and Technical Service Providers

The Pasture Project at The Wallace Center has identified the Embarras River Watershed as a priority area for increasing regenerative grazing in Illinois (learn about their assessment [here](https://winrockgis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=a08c60384be84ca799207c279b60bf21)). The watershed has further been identified as a priority area in the Illinois Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy for reducing phosphorus loads (learn more about the implementation strategy [here](https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/water-quality/watershed-management/excess-nutrients/Pages/nutrient-loss-reduction-strategy.aspx)). Applications are open to all Illinois-based agricultural service providers, though priority will be given to **early-career agricultural support professionals providing services within the Embarras watershed**.

This program is intended to provide participants with a solid base of regenerative grazing knowledge. Participants will be expected to attend three 90 minute virtual workshops, three 60-90 minute expert “Ask Me Anything” sessions as well as complete additional readings and self-assessments. This is a commitment of approximately 10 hours of virtual contact from November 2020 through January 2021. Additionally, all participants are strongly encouraged to attend an additional three virtual sessions designed for farmers (February-March 2021) to get a first-hand understanding of the questions and concerns of producers as well as an in-person regenerative grazing field day in spring 2021. By applying for this program, you are acknowledging your desire to join a cohort of passionate individuals wanting to learn about regenerative grazing practices. We hope the connections you make with your fellow peers will continue past the end date of this training so that you can continue to learn from each other and build a network of educators trained in regenerative grazing in Illinois.

1. Will your organization support your time to participate in this program?
2. If not, will you commit to completing this work on your own time?

Rate your personal proficiency with the following topics:

0 = no knowledge; 1 = novice; 2 = competent; 3 = proficient; 4 = expert

1. Basic ecological principles
2. Soil science
3. Natural resources management (water quality management, vegetation management, habitat management, etc.)
4. Basic agricultural practices
5. Agricultural practices that support regenerative outcomes
6. Traditional grazing management (set stock grazing, fixed rotational grazing, etc.)
7. Regenerative grazing management (multi-paddock rotational grazing, managed intensive grazing, etc.)
8. Developing educational training/outreach and support programs for farmers and landowners
9. Providing one-on-one technical assistance to farmers and landowners

Open-ended questions (each response has a 1200 character limit)

1. Briefly describe the type of services you regularly provide to farmers and landowners and the geographic area in which you work. (Consulting/advising; training/education; technical assistance; etc.)
2. Briefly describe your understanding of regenerative agriculture, including livestock grazing. (Please note that prior knowledge of regenerative agriculture and livestock grazing are not required.)
3. Briefly describe your professional and/or personal interest in increasing implementation of regenerative agriculture and grazing practices in Illinois.
4. Briefly describe why you would like to participate in this course including how you intend to utilize the knowledge, resources, and professional connections to further your ability to support your professional or personal commitments.
5. What issues or questions do you hope this course addresses?