

# Soil Quality Restoration Grant Program

## Soil Quality Restoration

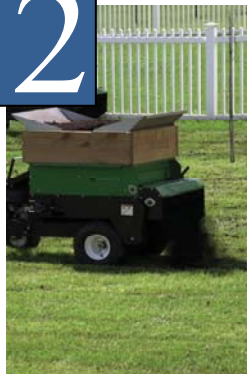
Easy as 1, 2, 3

1



Treat your lawn with deep-tine aeration. This practice de-compacts your soils and opens up space for organic matter to move deeper into the soil profile.

2



Spread a minimum of 1/2 inch and maximum of 3/4 inch of compost on your aerated lawn. The rich organic matter will settle into the aerated soils to increase the organic content of your lawn.

3



Apply grass seed to the blanket of compost. The grass will quickly fill in, leaving you with a fuller, more beautiful lawn

(Optional. Seeding not a reimbursable practice.)



Can you guess which lawn underwent Soil Quality Restoration?

## Why Soil Quality Restoration?

- You can enjoy a greener, fuller lawn.
- Your lawn will require less water and fertilizer to stay healthy.
- You will see fewer weeds in your lawn.
- Your lawn will infiltrate water more efficiently during and after rain events—that means less ponding and erosion!
- Your lawn will treat the stormwater from your lot, which decreases the amount of hot, polluted water running from your property into local waterways.

## Grant Program

The City of Eldridge is now helping residents cover the costs of Soil Quality Restoration to help land owners improve the quality of stormwater runoff and reduce the pollutants entering the City's storm sewer system from individual residential lots. While funds are available, residential Soil Quality Restoration projects may be eligible for 50% funding up to a maximum match of \$1,000. Projects must be pre-approved and follow the program's guidelines to qualify for funding. Only residential properties constructed prior to 2022 are eligible for the program.

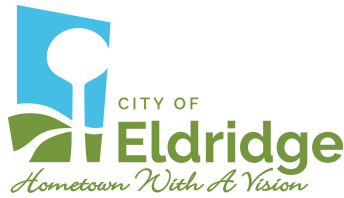
## Apply Now!

Complete instructions and conditions for the Soil Quality Restoration Grant Program can be found on the program application. You can request an application from City Hall:

563-285-4841

## Questions?

[info@cityofeldridgeia.org](mailto:info@cityofeldridgeia.org)  
(563) 285-4841



## Soil Quality Restoration Program Funding

### Background/Program Description

This program is to improve the quality of storm water runoff and reduce the pollutants entering the City's storm sewer system and waterways through the use of best management practices (BMPs). The BMP chosen for this project is Soil Quality Restoration (SQR). Starting in 2022 (and until all funds are expended), the City will have funds available for SQR. While funds are available, SQR projects are eligible for 50% funding up to a maximum match of \$1,000. Only residential properties constructed prior to 2022 are eligible to participate in the program. The property owner is required to contract with a City accepted contractor for deep tine aeration and the application of a minimum of ½ inch to a maximum of ¾ inch of compost. The application of grass seed following the placement of compost is not eligible for reimbursement. Any costs associated with seeding will be fully at the expense of the property owner. Applications will be processed within two weeks of submittal to the City of Eldridge

### Instructions for Application

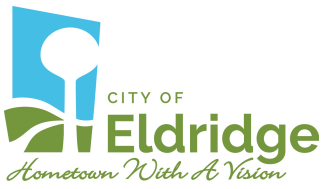
1. Complete the application form. Include a description of the project and sketch or plans for the project.
2. Contact any of the following approved landscape contractors for quotes for SQR work.

a. Able Lawn & Landscape	563.424.0441	ablelawns@gmail.com
b. All Around Landscaping	563.324.6450	lexie@allarowntownservices.com
c. Valley Outdoor	563.320.2772	valleyoutdoorllc@gmail.com
d. Wood Lawn Maintenance	563.210.4969	brianjwood@mchsi.com
3. Attach project cost estimates or quotes.
4. The application is required to be signed by all property owners where this project will occur. If the project is for a homeowner's association or condominiums, the application must be signed by a board member authorized by the association.
5. Return completed application and supporting documents to the Eldridge City Hall (Attn: SQR Project, 305 N 3rd St. PO Box 375, Eldridge, IA 52748 -or- [info@cityofeldridgeia.org](mailto:info@cityofeldridgeia.org))
6. You will be notified by email (or mail in the case of no email address.) Work must be completed within 6 months of notification of award by the City to the applicant.
7. The completed contractor certification needs to be returned prior to inspection and reimbursement.

### Conditions

1. The applicant is responsible for the payment of all expenses associated with the work. Upon submittal of paid receipts and successful field review, the City will reimburse the applicant within 30 days.
2. Implementation of an approved project is the sole responsibility of the property owner. The City is not liable for personal injury or property damage resulting from said work.
3. Projects approved for funding carry no implied warranty by the City. Implementation and maintenance are the responsibility of the property owner.
4. The property owner is responsible for any local, state or federal permits that may be required.
5. Involve your neighbors. If your neighbors are not a part of the project, at least keep them informed and seek input before doing the work. Drainage issues have been known to cause years of ill will between neighbors.
6. Projects must be completed within a six month period of the applicant receiving notification from the City that the project has been approved for funding.
7. Projects must use Method 8 of the Iowa Stormwater Manual. (<http://www.iowastormwater.org/>). Only existing yards are eligible.
8. The property owner shall return the completed contractor certification form to the City when the project is completed to schedule a field review of the project. When the field review verifies the project has been successfully completed, the City will reimburse the property owner within thirty days.

Questions regarding this application should be directed to [info@cityofeldridgeia.org](mailto:info@cityofeldridgeia.org) or by calling (563) 285-4841.



# SOIL QUALITY RESTORATION (SQR) FUNDING APPLICATION

Name:

Address:

Daytime Phone:  Evening Phone:

Email:

Rent or Own? *(If renting, property owner signature is required below)*      Rent      Own

Anticipated start date:

Anticipated completion date:

**Funding summary:**

Property location	Cost Estimate

I have read and understand the conditions listed on the SQR Program Description and authorize an inspection by City Hall staff to evaluate this application and conduct a field review of the completed project.

Property Owner's Signature

Date

Name and address, if different from above

**City Approvals**

*Funding Approval*

City Administrator

Date

Amount Approved

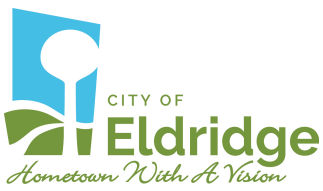
*Field Review Verification*

Approved

Date

Check Issued

Number/Date



**Soil Quality Restoration on Existing Turf**  
*(to be completed by Landscapers)*

Landowner Name:

Date of Soil Quality Restoration:

Address:

Square footage of area treated:

Depth of Aeration:

Source of Compost:

Tons/Cubic Yards of Compost Applied:  Tons       Cubic Yards

Average Depth of Compost Applied:

Was supplemental seeding applied? Yes  No

Reason for supplemental seeding (patchy grass, dead spots, etc.)

Is the supplemental seeding mix compatible with the existing turf grass? Yes  No

If supplemental seeding was applied, what was the seeding rate and what was planted?

Notes:

**Soil Quality Restoration Steps:**

1. Soil Quality Restoration is typically completed during the spring and fall. Avoid summer applications when compost can burn the grass.
2. Contact Iowa One Call to have utilities marked. Locate and mark private utilities, sprinklers, underground pet fencing, etc.
3. Mow existing vegetation to a height of approximately 2-3 inches. (Avoid mowing if there is a risk of frost.)
4. Take steps to avoid a crabgrass pre-emergence application in the spring if you are planning on grass seeding along with the application. The crabgrass pre-emergence will stunt any new grass growth
5. Aerate to a depth of 4 inches (6 to 9 inches preferred).
6. Based on site conditions, apply 1/2-3/4 inch compost blanket over the mowed area. Grass should be poking through the compost application. If grass isn't showing, pull grass through compost layer with rake until you can see grass.
7. If needed, apply seed as specified or incorporate seed into the compost blanket if using a pneumatic blower. If supplemental seeding is applied, water twice daily (morning and evening) until vegetation is established.

I certify that soil quality restoration was done according to the information/steps above.

**Landscaper Name and Company** \_\_\_\_\_