

## Land Requirements for Kestrel Nest Box Program

*Calling all land owners! If your property meets the following requirements, please consider letting us install a kestrel nest box. Thank you for helping future generations of this tiny falcon!*

**Habitat:** Kestrels prefer a variety of semi-open habitats, including meadows, grassy fields, pastures, early old-field successional communities, open parkland, agricultural fields, as well as highway and power line rights-of-way. They inhabit both urban and suburban areas. Woodland edges, widely scattered trees, snags, and perches in the form of trees, shrubs, utility wires or telephone poles are essential components of the kestrel's habitat.

**Boxes can be installed on:** Preferred options are barns, light poles, and power poles. If none of these exists on the property we may be able to add a special kestrel pole constructed out of pressure treated lumber and dug into the ground or attached to a fence post.

**Area around nest box:** Should have limited human activity and at least an acre of open space. Places for the birds to perch are a plus (power lines, dead trees, poles)

**Territory Requirements:** Within a ½ mile -3/4 mile circle around the box there should be about 20 acres of open grassland, meadows, grazing area for them to hunt insects.

Landowners are not required to monitor boxes, but if you would like to let us know and we can show you how. There is no cost for having a box installed on your property.



The box above was installed on a barn along a power line right of way and successfully fledged 2 kestrels in 2015.

If you are interested in having a box installed on your property contact Gene Groshon at 410-535-5327 or [groshopp@co.cal.md.us](mailto:groshopp@co.cal.md.us). He can evaluate your area using aerial maps and meet you for a site visit to determine how well the property and surrounding area meets the requirements.