

## FACTSHEET

October, 2010

### PRACTICE DEFINITION

Permanent strips of stiff, dense vegetation established along the general contour of slopes or across concentrated flow areas.

### PRACTICE PURPOSE

- Reduce sheet and rill erosion.
- Reduce ephemeral gully erosion.
- Manage water flow.
- Stabilize steep slopes.
- Trap sediment.



### PRACTICE INFORMATION

This practice applies to all land uses where sheet and rill and/or concentrated flow erosion are resource concerns.

This practice is not well-suited to soils that are shallow to rock or other restrictive layers and where tillage is used on the cropped strips. The “benching” process that occurs on slopes where barriers are installed (tillage erosion moves soil from the upper part of the cropped strip, which then accumulates in the lower part of the cropped strip) can expose soil material unfavorable for crop growth.

This document is not all inclusive and should not be used as guidance for implementation. The Conservation Practice Standard and Practice Specifications are the official guidance documents for implementation of this practice.