



Producer: _____
 Location: _____
 Farm Name: _____

Project or Contract: _____
 County: _____
 Tract Number: _____

Practice Lifespan – 15 years



Practice Purpose(s): (check all that apply)

- Reduce transport of sediment to surface water, and reduce transport of pathogens, chemicals, pesticides, and nutrients to surface and ground water
- Improve the quantity and quality of terrestrial and aquatic habitat for wildlife, invertebrate species, fish, and other organisms
- Maintain or increase total carbon stored in soils and/or perennial biomass to reduce atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gasses
- Lower elevated stream water temperatures
- Restore diversity, structure, and composition of riparian plant communities
- Other: (Specify)

Description of work:

Large empty text box for description of work.

NRCS Review Only

Designed By:	_____	Date	_____
Checked By:	_____	Date	_____
Approved By:	_____	Date	_____

391 – Riparian Forest Buffer Implementation Requirements

GENERAL CRITERIA:

Follow the Tree and Shrub Establishment Specification Guide Sheet 612 to assure successful tree and shrub establishment.

Select one or more species that are suited to soil and site conditions, and appropriate for the planned purpose(s).

Determine desired stocking levels for trees and/or shrubs based on ecological characteristics of the site and species, and landowner objectives. Plant, seed, and/or naturally regenerate at densities/rates that reflect anticipated seedling mortality, to achieve desired stocking levels in the established stand.

Use NRCS Conservation Practice Standard (CPS) Tree/Shrub Site Preparation (Code 490) to prepare sites for planting, seeding, or natural regeneration, if conditions are not suitable for establishing the desired plants.

Select only viable, high-quality, and adapted plant materials. Select planting stock that conforms to established seed transfer protocols within the State, and complies with minimum standards accepted by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). Do not plant any species on the Federal or State invasive species or noxious weed lists.

Choose appropriate planting dates and handling methods to increase rates of survival. Select planting techniques and timing appropriate for soil and site conditions. Follow dates in the Tree and Shrub Establishment Specification Guide Sheet 612.

Follow all General and Additional Criteria found in the 391 Conservation Practice Standard (CPS).

PLANS and SPECIFICATIONS:

Objective(s) for establishment:

Site Description:

Establishment Method (planting, natural regen, etc.):

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Buffer Layout and Size					
Riparian forest buffer is planned on: If one side of stream, which bank? (facing downstream)			Min. Buffer Width: Feet	Avg. Buffer Width: Feet	
			Total Buffer Length: Feet	Total Acres: Acres	
Existing Conditions – List the existing conditions at the site to be established.					
Field No.	Buffer #	Land Use	Planned Buffer Acres	Soils Map Unit	<u>Natural Community Type</u> Likely to Occur
Filter Area – Check if required – Include establishment info or reference other source (e.g. Practice 393)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Buffer is adjacent to cropland and is receiving sediment and nutrients. An area consisting of perennial herbaceous cover must be maintained or established along the up gradient of the riparian forested buffer. Herbaceous strip width will be _____ feet wide (min. width is 15 feet).					
Filter Establishment Specs/Reference:					
Natural Regeneration - Where used, specify existing species, woody stems/acre¹ if known, and describe seed source nearby (age, size, distance, etc.)².					
Site Preparation – Include any requirements or recommendations (Refer to VT Standard 490)					
Remove debris and control competing vegetation to allow for planting and planting equipment. Pest Management including weed control may be required. The following method of site preparation is planned: Mechanical (e.g. plowing, disking or rototilling) Chemical control of vegetation Hand scalping the area where trees are to be planted Other:					
Additional requirements:					

¹ Refer to VT NRCS Forestry Technical Note #1

² Refer to the Seed Source section of the VT NRCS Tree and Shrub Establishment Specification Guide Sheet 612.

Sketches, drawings, and detail drawings are attached.

N/A

A map(s) showing the location of plantings and/or natural regeneration areas is attached.

A soils map(s), and description of soils and Ecological Sites (if available) is attached.

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Tree and Shrub Planting Information (Use additional sheets if necessary)						
Tree/Shrub Planting Date:		Vegetative Planting Date:				
Tree or Shrub Species	Type of Stock	Number to be Planted by Land Unit				Protection
		Buffer(s) #	Buffer(s) #	Buffer(s) #	Total	
Vegetative (Live Stakes, wattles)						
Rooted Stock³						
Total Number Of Rooted Stock To Be Planted:						

³ Include live stakes or other vegetative plant materials in this section when they will be used within and for the purpose of buffer establishment versus for streambank stabilization

Site Planting Notes – Include information about different planting areas, elevations and communities clarifying why different mixes or species should be planted where specified

Plant Materials Summary – Specify desired sizes and collection info if necessary

Plant Protection Summary – Specify tube heights, brush mat sizes and numbers required by plant material type or by species (e.g brush mats on shrubs or tubes on maples)

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Planting Methods - # stems, spacing, arrangement (Refer to VT Standard and Specification 612)

For container and bare root stock, plant stock to a depth even with the root collar in holes deep and wide enough to fully extend the roots. Pack the soil firmly around each plant. Cuttings are inserted in moist soil with buds up and buried so that 75% of the stem is underground.

Number of Stems to be Planted per Acre and Spacing:

Planting Arrangement:

Additional requirements:

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE:

- Burn or mow the area periodically, if needed to maintain the health of the plant community. Do not conduct maintenance practices and activities during the primary reproductive period of wildlife. Exceptions can be considered to maintain the health of the vegetative community if such exceptions do not conflict with agency requirements.
- Control access by vehicles and/or equipment during or after tree/shrub establishment to protect new plants and minimize erosion, compaction and other site impacts.
- Inspect the site at an appropriate time following planting, seeding, and/or natural regeneration to determine whether the survival rate for tree and shrubs meets practice and client objectives. Replant or provide supplemental planting when survival is not adequate.
- Inspect the trees and shrubs periodically, and protect them from adverse impacts of insects, diseases, competing vegetation, fire, livestock, wildlife, non-functioning tree shelters and/or weed barriers, etc.
- If needed, control competing vegetation until the desired trees/shrubs are established. Control plant species on the Federal or State invasive species and noxious weed lists.
- If needed, apply nutrients to maintain vigor of desirable trees/shrubs.

Specific Additional Operation and Maintenance Requirements For Your Practice:

If you have questions regarding this Riparian Forest Buffer practice, contact:

Name:		Tel:		Email:	
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