

Conservation Practice Overview

Vermont December 2012

Hedgerow Planting (Code 422)

Hedgerow planting involves establishment of dense vegetation in a linear design to achieve a natural resource conservation purpose.

Practice Information

Hedgerows are established using woody plants or perennial bunch grasses that produce erect stems of at least 3 feet in height that will persist over winter.

Conservation benefits include but are not limited to:



- · improved wildlife habitat, and
- reduced drift of airborne dust, chemicals, and odors.

Hedgerows also help to screen noise and improve landscape appearance.

Hedgerows containing a mixture of native shrubs and small trees provide the greatest environmental benefits. It is important to consider the amount of shading a hedgerow will provide at maturity. Shading and root growth may impact growth of adjacent plants and microclimate.

Common Associated Practices

Hedgerow Planting (422) is commonly applied with conservation practices such as Tree/ Shrub Establishment (612) and Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645).

For further information, contact your local NRCS field office.