

Critical Area Planting

Conservation Practice Job Sheet

RI - 342

Owner/Operator _____ Farm No. _____ Tract No. _____ Field No. _____

Practice Specifications

Practice Specifications are prepared in accordance with the Rhode Island NRCS Field Office Technical Guide and the Critical Area Planting practice standard (342). Information contained in this document is considered part of the conservation plan. This jobsheet is to be used with "A Guide to Conservation Plantings on Critical Areas for the Northeast."

Client Name:		Farm #:	
Field(s):		Tract#:	
Planned By:		Date:	
Approved By:		Total Acres:	

Purpose: (check all that apply)	
To Stabilize stream and channel banks, and shorelines.	To Rehabilitate and revegetate degraded sites that cannot be stabilized using normal establishment techniques.
To stabilize areas with existing high rates of soil erosion by wind or water.	To Stabilize coastal areas, such as sand dunes and riparian areas.
To stabilize areas with expected high rates of soil erosion by wind or water.	To minimize sedimentation on and off-site.
Other (specify):	

GENERAL CRITERIA:

-  Plant species, seedbed preparation, seeding rates, seeding dates, seeding depths, and planting methods will be consistent with approved local criteria and site conditions.
-  The species selected for seeding or planting shall be suited to current site conditions and intended uses.
-  Seeds will be planted using the method or methods best suited to site and soil conditions.

Date of Seeding: Recommended seeding dates shall be by Plant Hardiness Zone. Rhode Island has the following zones; **6A, 6B and 7A**. See figure 1 for Plant Hardiness Zone map for Rhode Island.

Fertilization: Applied fertilizers, when used, will be applied according to a current soil test or guidebook recommendation.

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Planning

There are many items to consider when planning a seeding, especially in erosion-prone areas and in areas with construction activities. Assessment of site conditions should include topography, soils, compaction, hydrology, high water flows, and ability to irrigate.

- 💧 Be aware of the surrounding land uses and avoid disturbing adjacent areas.
- 💧 Assess the existing vegetation on the site and in adjacent areas, including noxious or invasive weeds or threatened and endangered plants.
- 💧 Evaluate the amount of shade.
- 💧 Evaluate, protect and stockpile topsoil whenever possible.
- 💧 Plan for any needed permanent or temporary auxiliary practices to ensure safe disposal of runoff water, slope stabilization, compaction remediation, erosion control, and drainage and sedimentation abatement.

Seedbed Preparation

Apply necessary lime, fertilizer, and other soil amendments evenly on the site during site preparation. Prepare a firm seedbed when the soil is moist, but not wet.

Slopes flatter than 3:1 need a seedbed prepared to a depth of 3 to 6 inches; this can usually be done with conventional farm equipment. Provide at least a 3-inch deep seedbed of firm friable soil free of large clods and stones. Slopes steeper than 3:1 need the soil surface scarified to loosen the soil to a minimum of 1 inch deep. Do not work completely smooth; maintain a somewhat roughened condition that will allow the seed to settle. Seed immediately following final scarification, then cover the seed with soil. When possible, on steep slopes when using a bulldozer, conduct the final surface preparation by tracking perpendicular to the slope resulting in cleat marks along the contour.

OPERATION / MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE:

- 💧 Inspections, reseeding or replanting, and fertilization may be needed to ensure that this practice functions as intended throughout its expected life. Control weeds in the cover crop by mowing, herbicide application, or approved methods of organic production.
- 💧 When seeding legumes, ensure the proper inoculate is used at planting time. It is best to inoculate just prior to planting. Organic producers should check for allowable inoculants.
- 💧 Repair damaged areas as soon as possible after the damage occurs.
- 💧 Remove temporary diversions, silt fences, etc. after the area is stabilized.

Additional Specifications and Notes:

Table 1 - Design Specification Sheet

Id	Field	Slope %	Seed Mixture	Rate (lbs/ac)	Soil drainage class	Shade tolerance	Seeding Date	Seeding Method	Type of Mulching if required ¹
			Appendix 4d of guidebook				Appendix 4a of guidebook	P. 47-53 of guidebook	Appendix 4e of guide
1									
2									
3									

Seedbed Preparation - P. 45 - 46 of guidebook									
Field	Lime		Nitrogen (N)		Phosphorus (P ₂ O ₅)		Potassium (K ₂ O)		Notes
	tons/acre	lbs/1000 ft ²	tons/acre	lbs/1000 ft ²	tons/acre	lbs/1000 ft ²	tons/acre	lbs/1000 ft ²	

¹ Use Mulching (484) Conservation Standard and jobsheet with “A Guide to Conservation Plantings on Critical Areas for the Northeast” and attach.

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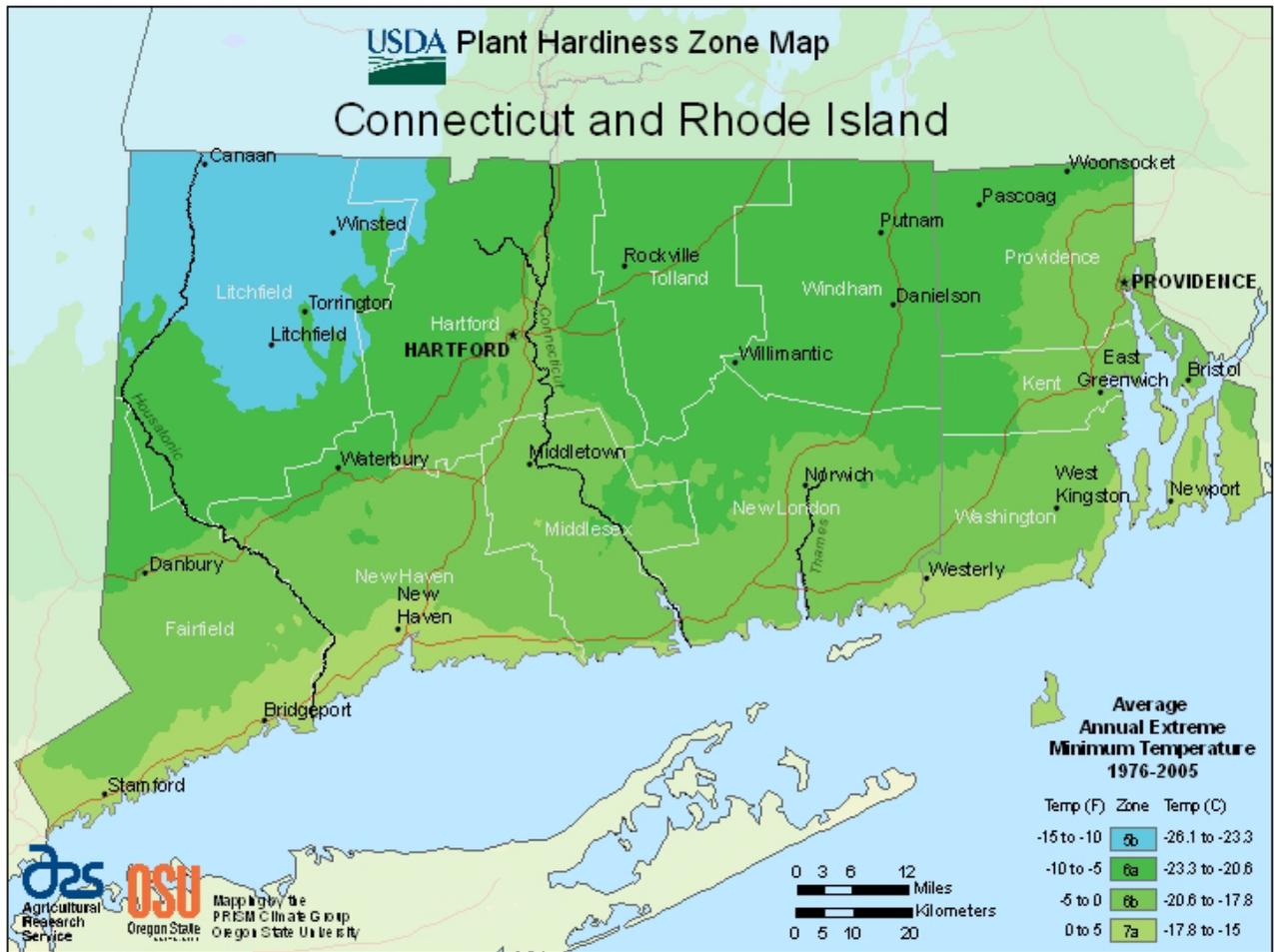


Figure 1

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs and marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA Office of Communications (202) 720-2791. To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Practice Installation Guidelines

It shall be the responsibility of the landowner to obtain all necessary permits and/or rights, and to comply with all ordinances and laws pertaining to this installation.

Practice designs and specifications shall be reviewed by NRCS planner with the landowner prior to start of work for practice installation.

Contact the NRCS planner _____ at 401- _____ prior to installation. Keep NRCS planner updated throughout the installation process.

Contact the NRCS planner _____ at 401- _____ upon completion of practice.

Practice specifications and special requirements

Installation shall be in accordance with the following specifications and special requirements.
NO CHANGES ARE TO BE MADE IN THE DRAWINGS OR SPECIFICATIONS WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE NRCS.

1. Use Practice Specifications: **“A Guide to Conservation Plantings on Critical Areas for the Northeast.”**

The landowner/operator acknowledges that:

A) He/she has received a copy of the practice specifications, and Operation and Maintenance plan, and that he/she has an understanding of the contents and the requirements.

B) He/she has or will obtain all of the necessary permits prior to construction.

C) No changes will be made in the installation of the job without prior concurrence of the NRCS technician.

D) This practice has a lifespan of 10 years.

E) Adherence to the Operation and Maintenance plan of the installed work is necessary for proper performance during the practice lifespan.

F) NRCS planner shall be contacted prior to installation for a review of the practice installation and at completion for practice certification.

Accepted by :

Date:

Address :

Practice design approval

Lead Discipline for this practice: **Biological Conservation Sciences Division**

Job Classification:

_____ No design changes were made. _____ Design changes were approved and are included

Design approved by:

Date:

Practice certification

I have made an on-site inspection and have determined that the practice has been installed according to practice standard and specifications.

Certified by:

Date: