

Hedgerow Planting

Virginia Conservation Practice Job Sheet

422



Definition

Establishment of dense vegetation in a linear design to achieve a natural resource conservation purpose.

Criteria

Minimum width for Hedgerow Planting is 15' at planting. This may necessitate the establishment of more than one row of plants.

Hedgerows shall be established using woody plants or perennial bunch grasses producing erect stems attaining average heights of at least 3 feet persisting over winter.

No plant listed by the state as a noxious weed shall be established in a hedgerow. Select species from the Virginia Plant Establishment Guide.

The practice shall be protected from livestock grazing and trampling to the extent necessary to ensure that it will perform the intended purpose(s).

Competing vegetation shall be controlled until the hedgerow becomes established. Control shall continue beyond the establishment period, if necessary.

If planted for general wildlife habitat, establish at least two compatible species of native vegetation. Multiple species increase food and habitat diversity while reducing pest and disease risk.

If planted for pollinator habitat, multiple forb species with different blooming periods (early spring through late summer) shall be included in the planting. The actual number of species is dependent upon the availability of adjacent flowering plants. Plants that bloom during the same period as adjacent insect-pollinated crops can be excluded.

If the purpose is to contain livestock, selected plants shall not be poisonous or hazardous to the animals.

If planted for boundaries, they should be aligned along boundaries of fields, or forestlands to differentiate land management units.

Screening hedgerows provide privacy, hide unsightly areas from view or reduce noise.

Hedgerows shall be located where they most completely obstruct a line of sight or offensive sound.

The hedgerow design shall meet the aesthetic objectives of the landowner.

To reduce particulates and/or odors, the hedgerow will be oriented as close to perpendicular to the prevailing wind direction as possible.

Tree and shrub species used shall have foliar and structural characteristics that optimize interception, adsorption and absorption of airborne chemicals or odors. Plant species shall be selected that are tolerant of anticipated chemical use.

Note: This summary does not address all requirements and consideration in the VA Hedgerow Planting Conservation Practice Standard (VA-422). Consult the Conservation Practice Standard for further details.

Virginia Riparian Hedgerow Planting– Practice Certification 422

Producer _____ Farm # _____ Tract # _____
Field Office _____ Contract # _____
Planting Date _____

Producer's Purpose

- Habitat, including food, cover, and corridors for terrestrial wildlife.
- To enhance pollen, nectar, and nesting habitat for pollinators.
- Food, cover, and shade for aquatic organisms that live in adjacent streams or watercourses.
- To provide substrate for predaceous and beneficial invertebrates as a component of integrated pest management.
- To intercept airborne particulate matter.
- To reduce chemical drift and odor movement.
- Screens and barriers to noise and dust
- To increase carbon storage in biomass and soils.
- Living fences
- Boundary delineation and contour guidelines

Practice Specifications

Site Preparation

Are tubes and mats required Yes No If yes please specify _____

Site preparation requirements _____

Field Number	Planting Stock and Species	Planting rate (#/ac) Spacing and Configuration	Planned Planting Date	Fertilizer and Other Soil Amendments

Operation and Maintenance

- 1) During the year of establishment
 - a. Control competing vegetation to allow the planting stock to become established. Chemical, mechanical or agronomic methods may be used.
 - b. Control and eliminate invasive species.
 - c. Monitor the plantings and replace dead plants.
 - d. Insure protection from grazing livestock.
- 2) After establishment
 - a. Fertilize periodically to promote vigorous growth and maintain plant vigor.
 - b. Monitor and control pests.
 - c. Protect from grazing.
 - d. Schedule pruning, and other hedgerow renovation activities to avoid the nesting season (April 15 through Aug 15).
 - e. Replace dead or missing plants.

Additional Instructions:

Planner Certification

The Hedgerow Planting practice planned in this job sheet fulfills minimum requirements of Virginia NRCS Conservation Practice Standard 422.

Signature Title Date

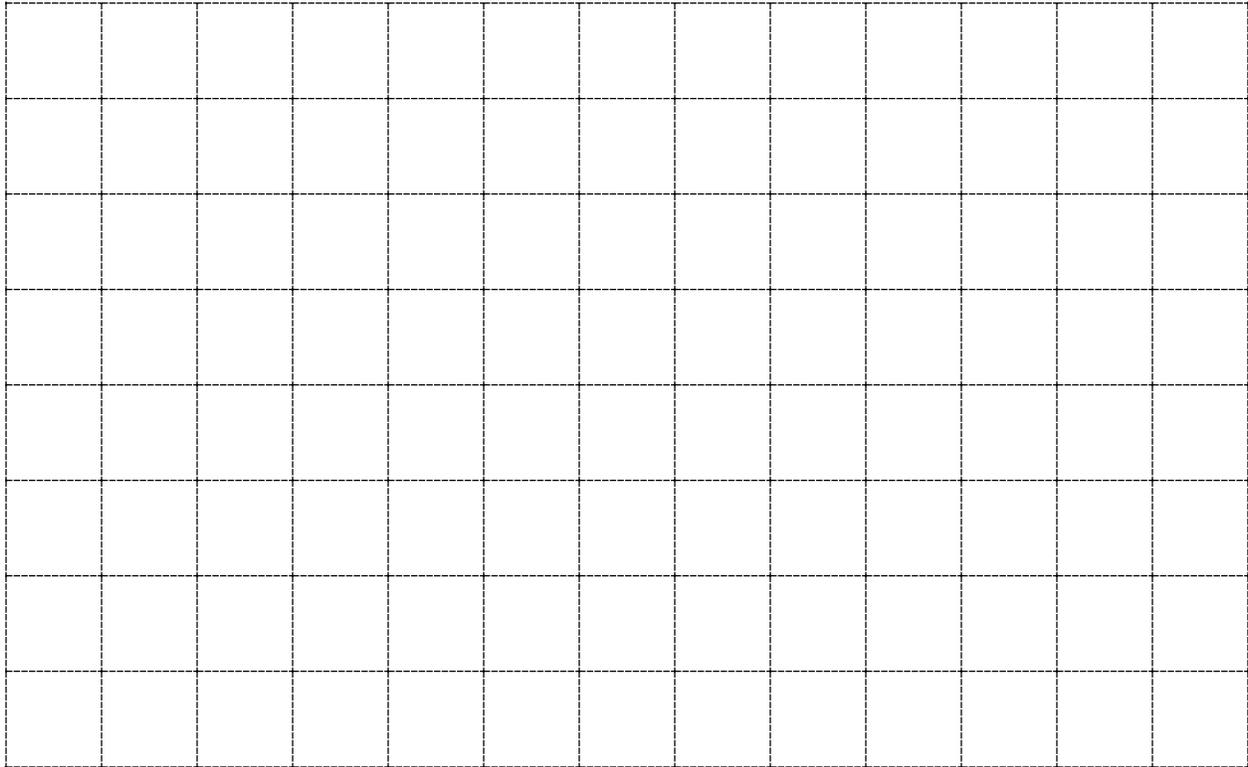
Certification of Practice Completion

The Hedgerow Planting practice planned in this job sheet has been completed and maintained according to Virginia NRCS specifications (indicate in Practice Specifications any changes to the planned practice and acreage).

Signature Title Date

If needed, an aerial view or a side view of the practice can be shown below. Other relevant information, complementary practices and measures, and additional specifications may be included.

Scale 1"= _____ ft. (NA indicates sketch not to scale: grid size=1/2" by 1/2")



Additional Specifications and Notes:

"USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer"