

## Hedgerow Planting



### Definition

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

### Purpose

Hedgerow Plantings are established to provide food, cover and corridors for terrestrial wildlife, food and cover for aquatic organisms that live in watercourses, intercept airborne particulate matter, reduce chemical drift and odor movement, increase carbon storage in biomass and soils, living fences, boundary delineation, contour guidelines, screens and barriers to noise and dust, and improvement of landscape appearance.

### Where used

Hedgerow plantings are planted in a variety of settings, such as on cropland, pasture, along roads and boundaries, adjacent to farmsteads, feedlots, and in urban areas.

### Resource management system

Hedgerows can be planned in combination with other practices to develop complete resource management systems that enhance landscape aesthetics, reduce soil erosion, improve sediment trapping, improve water quality, and provide wildlife habitat.

### Considerations

Hedgerows containing a mixture of native shrubs and small trees provide the greatest environmental benefits. Consider the amount of shading a hedgerow will provide at maturity. Shading may impact growth of adjacent plants, microclimate, and aesthetics. Limiting vegetative management (renovation) events to one-third of a hedgerow's length and width will prevent sudden elimination of the practice's wildlife habitat function. Consider avoiding the use of plants that spread by root suckers as hedgerow may expand beyond the desired treatment area.

### Operation and maintenance

The following actions shall be carried out to insure that this practice functions as intended throughout its expected life. These actions include normal repetitive activities in the application and use of the practice (operation), and repair and upkeep of the practice (maintenance):

- Supplemental planting may be required when survival is too low to produce a continuous hedgerow.
- Supplemental water will be provided as needed.
- Thin or prune the hedgerow to maintain its function. These renovation activities shall be scheduled to prevent disturbance during the wildlife nesting season.
- Inspect vegetation periodically and protect from adverse impacts including insects, diseases or competing vegetation. Vegetation will also be protected from fire and damage from unwanted grazing throughout its life span.
- Periodic applications of nutrients may be needed to maintain plant vigor.

### Specifications

Site-specific requirements are listed on the specifications sheet. Additional provisions are entered on the job sketch sheet. Specifications are prepared in accordance with the VT NRCS Field Office Technical Guide. See practice standard Hedgerow Planting - code 422.

## Hedgerow Planting – Job Sheet

<b>For:</b>	<b>Farm #:</b>	<b>Tract #:</b>
<b>Field(s):</b>	<b>Assisted By:</b>	
<b>Contract Item number (if applicable):</b>	<b>Program:</b>	
<b>Scheduled Date:</b>	<b>Completed Date:</b>	

Purpose for Planned Hedgerow (check all that apply):	
Food, cover & corridors for terrestrial wildlife	Contour guidelines
Food and cover for aquatic organisms	Screens and barriers to noise and dust
Living fences	Improvement of landscape appearance
Boundary delineation	Intercept airborne particulate matter
Reduce chemical drift and odor movement	Increase carbon storage in biomass and soils
Organic Producer	Other: (Specify)

Location and Layout Specifications: (Include a sketch, or aerial photo on page 4.)	
<b>Width</b> (feet; include widths of maintenance areas next to outer rows):	
<b>Length</b> (feet):	<b>Area</b> (acres):
<b>Total area of zone protected/sheltered</b> (acres; based on expected height and density of the windbreak/shelterbelt):	
<b>Additional requirements:</b>	

Plant Materials Information (See note below table):						
Row	Species/cultivar	Kind of stock <sup>1</sup> or seeding rate <sup>2</sup> :	Planting Dates	Distance between plants within row (ft):	Total number of plants per row:	Distance (ft) from this row to next row <sup>3</sup> :

<sup>1</sup>Bareroot, <sup>C</sup>ontainer, <sup>C</sup>utting, <sup>S</sup>eed; include size, caliper, height, and age as applicable. <sup>2</sup>Pure Live Seed (PLS) where available. <sup>3</sup>Adjusted for width of maintenance equipment.

Note: Sources of Plant Materials can be found in the Vermont Field Office Technical Guide Section I-A. Refer to Reference Lists – Ecological Science – References 1 and 2. Contact your local USDA-NRCS office for more information regarding these references.

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<b>Temporary Storage Instructions</b>
<p><i>Planting stock that is dormant may be stored temporarily in a cooler or cool, moist, darkened area up to 3 days. For more than 3 days or for stock that is expected to begin growth before planting, dig a V-shaped trench (healing-in-bed) sufficiently deep and bury seedlings so that all roots are covered by soil. Pack the soil firmly and water thoroughly. Additional requirements:</i></p>
<b>Site Preparation</b>
<p><i>Remove debris and control competing vegetation to allow enough spots or sites for planting and planting equipment. The following method of site preparation is planned: ___Mechanical means such as plowing, disking or rototilling, ___Chemical control of vegetation, ___Hand scalping the area where trees are to be planted, ___Other: _____</i></p> <p><i>Apply recommended amendments as needed, including the following: _____ Tons/Ac. Lime, _____ lbs/Ac. N-P 205-K2O. and prepare a firm seeding bed</i></p> <p><i>Additional requirements:</i></p>
<b>Planting Methods</b>
<p><i>For container and bareroot 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 at least 2 to 3 buds showing above ground. Pest Management including weed control is required.</i></p> <p>Vegetation Mat-Size _____ # _____ Tree Shelter-Size _____ # _____ Other _____</p> <p><i>Additional requirements:</i></p>
<b>Operation and Maintenance</b>
<p><i>Replacement of dead trees or shrubs will be continued until the hedgerow is functional.</i></p> <p><i>Supplemental water will be provided as needed.</i></p> <p><i>Thin or prune the hedgerow to maintain its function.</i></p> <p><i>Inspect trees and shrubs periodically and protect from adverse impacts including insects, diseases or competing vegetation. The trees or shrubs will also be protected from fire and damage from livestock and wildlife.</i></p> <p><i>Periodic applications of nutrients may be needed to maintain plant vigor.</i></p> <p><i>Other:</i></p>
<b>Additional Specifications and Notes:</b>

Installation shall be in accordance with the specified drawings, specifications, and special requirements. **No changes are to be made in the drawings or specifications without prior approval of the Technical Specialist.**

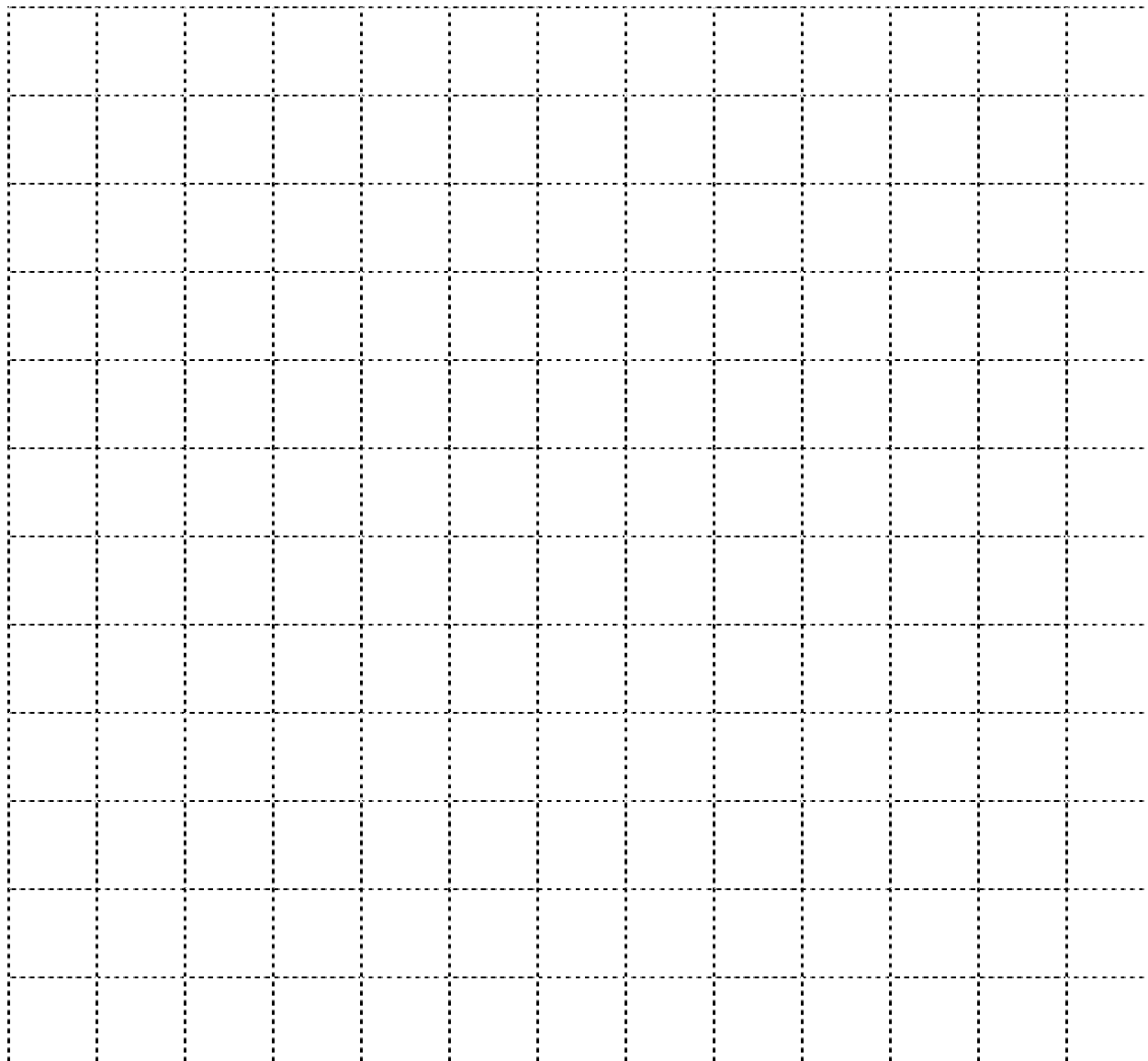
Direct questions regarding the planting or maintenance of the buffer planting to:  
at [telephone number].

[technical specialist]

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.

Recommendation: Import digital photographs to indicate practice before and after effects. For instructions regarding importing graphics to this doc go to: [ftp://ftp-fc.sc.egov.usda.gov/VT/Technical/Help/Adobe\\_PDF\\_Help\\_1.pdf](ftp://ftp-fc.sc.egov.usda.gov/VT/Technical/Help/Adobe_PDF_Help_1.pdf)

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



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