



**WEST GREELEY
CONSERVATION
DISTRICT**

4302 West 9th Street Road
Greeley, CO 80634
Phone: (970) 230.7020

To: Weld County Landowners
From: West Greeley Conservation District
Re: Windbreak Cost Share Program

The West Greeley Conservation District (WGCD) has a windbreak cost share program to help landowners in within our district boundary in Weld County with the cost of installing well designed, quality windbreaks. WGCD has developed guidelines and a set of minimum requirements for cooperators to follow in order to be eligible for the cost share program.

Enclosed is a packet of information about the windbreak cost share program that includes the cost share assistance contract with the established guidelines as well as information about ground/site preparation and a sketch sheet. If you are interested in participating in the program, and would like our assistance in planning, WGCD personnel can make a field visit to help with a windbreak planting plan.

The windbreak planting plan may be designed by the landowner or Conservation District personnel. If the plan is designed by the landowner, it must be approved by the District before being eligible for cost share assistance.

Please read through the enclosed information about the program and contact the Conservation District if you are interested in participating. WGCD will pay 50% cost share up to \$6,000.00 per landowner upon project approval. Applications can be submitted any time during the year, and will be reviewed by the West Greeley Conservation District Board of Supervisors at a regularly scheduled board meeting. Project funding is conditioned upon funding availability from the Conservation District.

Limit 1 cost share approval per category, per property, per 10-year period. (For repeat customers, the ten-year period begins after you receive payment from WGCD for previous cost share.)

Updated 4/10/2023

The West Greeley Conservation District prohibits discrimination in all of its programs and activities, including employment, on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political belief. West Greeley Conservation District is an equal opportunity employer and service provider

Windbreak Cost Share Contract Application
West Greeley Conservation District
4302 West 9th Street Road
Greeley, CO 80634
970-230-7020

Landowner name: _____

Mailing address: _____

Physical address of planting (if different): _____

Phone: _____

SSN: _____

West Greeley Conservation District has established a cost share program to assist landowners who are interested in establishing windbreaks for conservation. The program can provide 50% cost share, up to \$6,000 per landowner. All projects must meet the minimum standards and requirements of the program to qualify for cost share dollars. Applications will be prioritized by the West Greeley Conservation District based on project merit and District goals. This planting plan has been devised to accommodate the needs of the landowner, and to provide conservation benefits for Weld County's natural resources. *Please read the following statements carefully.*

West Greeley Conservation District Project Conditions:

1. Landowner must own a minimum of 1.5 acres where planting is to be established and be a landowner of the district.
2. Limit 1 cost share approval per category, per property, per 10-year period. (For repeat customers, the ten-year period begins after you receive payment from WGCD for previous cost share.)
3. Tree planting plans must be approved by the WGCD and cost share contract must be signed and returned to WGCD prior to tree planting.
4. All site preparation is the responsibility of the landowner and must be completed prior to the arrival of the trees in the spring. Preferably in the fall of the year prior to planting.
5. All plantings must be installed in a feasible location to meet conservation objectives with a minimum of 2 rows of trees and 1 shrub row.
6. Weed barrier must be used in all windbreaks in order to be eligible for cost share.
7. Livestock must be kept out of tree planting areas until trees are old enough to resist damage.
8. All project maintenance is the responsibility of the landowner.
9. The District will cost share on site prep, trees, weed barrier, tree protectors, exclusion fencing (if livestock present), drip/irrigation system materials and installation* costs. Cost share will be based on actual costs and will be reimbursed after final inspection and submission of receipts. Cooperator will be paid after planting has been completed and inspected by the District and submits a completed W9 and an itemized bill. All necessary fencing must be installed prior to project completion if you are requesting cost share reimbursement. All drip/irrigation systems must be installed within the first few months after planting in order to

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be eligible for cost share. *In-kind match contributions cannot exceed the cost of materials, based on a labor rate of \$12/hour**

10. It is the landowner's responsibility to make sure there are no overhead or underground utilities and to contact utility companies to have the area marked prior to planting. "Call before you dig" 811
11. WGCD cannot cost share on windbreaks that have already been planted, wrongly planted, mis planned, mis designed or if the planting differs from the approved windbreak design.

Guidelines for a successful windbreak:

1. Landowner should annually replace any trees or shrubs that are dead, weakened, or not growing properly at landowners' expense.
2. It is suggested that the landowner pull weeds from cut opening in the weed barrier around each tree at least twice per growing season to reduce competition and shading out.
3. Landowner should protect all trees and shrubs from insect and wildlife damage.
4. It is recommended that trees be watered within 12 hours of installation, and watered throughout each growing season, for at least 5 years.
5. Weed barrier must be checked regularly for loose spots and integrity.
6. All leeward rows (inside row) of the windbreak must be a minimum of 100' from the windward side of any building. It also needs to be located a safe distance (85') from driveways and roads to avoid excessive snow accumulation, end whip and prevent hindering of visibility on roads. Windbreaks planted near and parallel to public roads will be at least 200' from the centerline of the road to the leeward row.

Landowner

I agree with all of the conditions and guidelines mentioned in the project plan and related forms. I further agree to the implementation of the planned conservation practice on lands specified in the conservation plan. I also certify that these lands are owned by me. I understand that all initial costs associated with this project are the responsibility of the landowner. Upon notification of completion, the District will conduct a final inspection of the windbreak. Once approved, the Landowner must submit all receipts for reimbursement and the District will authorize the final payment. I certify that I have read and understand all of the conditions and guidelines associated with this practice and I agree to the terms and conditions of this contract.

Conservation concern/conservation goal:

Landowner signature: _____ Date: _____

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West Greeley Conservation District-Windbreak Program Ground Preparation Guidelines

Re: Site Preparation for windbreak planting

To ensure a quality tree planting project, WGCD has designed a site prep guideline with a minimum amount of requirements for cooperators to follow when participating in WGCD's windbreak cost-share program. *[Guidelines originally formulated by Uinta Conservation District]*

Ground Preparation

Proper site preparation is one of the best ways to improve the survival of your newly planted trees and shrubs. Preliminary groundwork reduces competition from weedy species, conserves soil moisture, and makes planting easier. Site preparation actually begins the year before planting and depends on the condition of your site. Soil type, existing vegetation, and possible erosion hazards should be considered in selecting the appropriate practices. Proper site preparation before planting should consist of all sod and vegetation being removed from the planting area or at least an area 8 feet wide and 8" deep where each row of trees will be planted. Site preparation should be done during the fall of the year prior to planting and left fallow to accumulate moisture.

Mechanical Site Preparation

Mechanical site preparation involves physically removing the competing vegetation from the planting site. Plows, disks, or roto-tillers can be used to achieve necessary tillage and are usually available at rental equipment stores and landscape companies. Plow or disk 8 foot wide strips where the tree rows will be planted. Leaving vegetation between the tree rows will help prevent soil erosion. Mechanical site preparation must take place in the fall prior to planting and again in the spring just before planting.

Chemical Site Preparation

Chemical site preparation consists of using herbicides to control competing vegetation. Weedy or grassy competition can be controlled with selective herbicide use. Effective control depends on four factors:

1. timing of application
2. herbicide selected
3. weather conditions
4. application rate

On sites with heavy grass sod, site preparation begins with an herbicide application in the spring while the grass is actively growing. The site must then be plowed in the fall and disked the following spring just prior to planting. Delaying disking until just before planting conserves soil moisture, controls early spring weeds, and reduces the potential for erosion damage. Herbicides should not be allowed to come in contact with the tree roots.

Very dry conditions will limit the effectiveness of most herbicides. Be sure to follow label directions for application rates, as rates differ depending on soil type and herbicide. Note: All herbicides must be applied in accordance with label recommendations and their registered use. Correct fall/spring site preparation is the responsibility of the landowner and is required to participate in WGCDs windbreak cost share program.

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WGCD Windbreak Design

Owner: _____ Address: _____

Phone # _____ Assisted by: _____ Date: _____

(Sketch of Project)



N

T ___ W

R ___ W

County : _____

Scale:

Planting area: (L x W) :

Total fenced area:

* Indicate distance from nearest tree row to nearest edge of area to be protected (ie, buildings, roads, fields, etc.)

Prevaling wind direction _____

WARNING: You must check for underground utilities prior to any ground disturbance activities. Call 800-922-1987 for free utilities search.

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WGCD Windbreak Cost Share Spacing Guidelines

*Following spacing guidelines is **required** for cost share participation*

Plant spacing is the spacing between plants

Shrub Spacing	Shrub examples: Native Plum, Nanking Cherry	4 to 6 ft Spacing
Medium Tree Spacing	Tree examples: Rocky Mountain Juniper, Eastern Red Cedar	6 to 8 ft Spacing
Large Tree Spacing	Tree examples: Ponderosa Pine, Colorado Blue Spruce	10 to 14 ft Spacing

Row spacing is the spacing between the rows of plants

8 to 15 ft spacing between rows

Total Number of Trees or Shrubs by Species

Row No.	Species	Spacing of Plants in Row		Spacing Between Rows		Number of Plants Needed	Length of Row
		Plan	Actual	Plan	Actual		

Species	Total	Tubes	Potted

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Estimate of Costs

Please estimate the costs as closely as possible for your windbreak, if you need more room, please attach paper as needed.

Row Number	Species	Price Per Tree	Total Price of Row of Trees

Total Cost of Trees: _____

Total Cost of Site Prep: _____

Total Cost of Tree Planting/Installation: _____

Total Cost of Weed Barrier Installation: _____

Total Cost of Weed Barrier: _____

Total Cost of Irrigation System: _____

Total Costs of other Planting Supplies: _____

Total Cost Other: _____

Grand Total Estimated Project Cost: _____

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