

## NSWCP NC-12 Windbreak Program

- The sign up period is around April 15<sup>th</sup> thru May 15<sup>th</sup> of every spring (look for times in the local newspapers). Cost share is 50%; 50% state money and 50% landowners money with a maximum of \$3000 of state money per landowner per year.
- NRD official will contact you and meet with you to design the windbreak on your property (this will most likely occur in June/July).
- Once all windbreaks are designed and scored we then go down the list of people until the cost share money runs out. The state allocates so much cost share money to every NRD throughout the state; the amount allocated varies year to year.
- You will be notified by August 30 if you have been accepted for cost share. Once notified you will have 30 days to cancel the cost share without being penalized (if you are penalized for late cancellation this means that the next time you apply for NC-12 cost share, 15 points will be subtracted from your score).
- Once you are approved you can begin building fence (highly recommended) and preparing the area. The Fence **MUST** be completed by June 1<sup>st</sup> or **you will not** get cost share on the fence.
- You will have until June 15<sup>th</sup> of the following year to complete the practice and necessary paperwork (Trees, Fabric, E.T.C). If the practice and paperwork is not completed by June 15<sup>th</sup> **you will not** get paid the cost shared amount.
- The way the cost share money works is that you pay everything up front and once the contract is submitted to the state you will receive a check from the state for 50% of the actual cost or 50% of the county average cost which ever is less.
- Once the fence is completed, a materials list and signature is required and a final signature is required before we can send the contract in to the state for payment. Failure to do so will result in no payment and you will be responsible for the windbreak cost.
- After the fence is completed a NRD official will be out to inspect the site to assure the fence was built to NRCS standards and specs and to measure the fence for length.
- In the fall following the planting NRD official will be out to do a survival check and you will be notified when this will occur. A copy of the survival list and a letter will be sent out to you.
- Each windbreak is eligible for 2 years of replants following the planting (next two years). There is a minimum of 125 trees to be eligible for cost share. The cost share is again 50% of the actual cost or 50% of county average cost which ever is less. The cost share will cover the cost of the tree and the labor to plant the tree. Once replanting is done you need to make up a receipt with our labor and tree costs, and a final signature before it can be submitted to the state. Just like before you will need to pay everything up front and you will receive a check from the state.
- You will be responsible to maintain the practice for 10 years. After the 3<sup>rd</sup> growing season or the 3<sup>rd</sup> fall after planting, the windbreak must meet 75% survival or you will be penalized (required to replant at own expense, repayment plus interest of cost share money, E.T.C; pending a review from the NRD board of directors).