

# North Dakota Statewide Windbreak Renovation Initiative



## Overview

Many planted shelterbelts and farmstead windbreaks in North Dakota have deteriorated due to age or disease and are no longer functional. Through the North Dakota Statewide Windbreak Renovation Initiative, the North Dakota Forest Service (NDFS) will offer technical and financial assistance to private landowners to restore, protect and enhance this deteriorating resource. NDFS and partners will assess windbreak condition and provide a written plan for renovating the windbreak to restore functionality. Through a grant from the North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund, this initiative will provide cost-share to landowners to implement their written windbreak renovation plan.

Interested landowners will complete the Windbreak Renovation Questionnaire located on the NDFS website. This questionnaire also serves as the pre-application. Pre-applications will be accepted on a continuous basis. Periodic deadlines, or cut-off dates, will be used to group applicants into pools. NDFS will review the information provided on the landowner questionnaire to determine if the project is eligible to participate. If the project is eligible a forester or technician will work with the landowner to develop a Windbreak Renovation Plan. There is no cost for this service and no obligation for the landowner to implement the plan.

If the landowner desires to implement the plan, the forester or technician can assist in applying for cost-share. Applications for cost share will be reviewed, ranked, and approved or denied based on funds available. Successful applicants will sign a cost-share agreement with NDFS. The landowner will have two years to complete the windbreak renovation as described in the Windbreak Renovation Plan. When the renovation is complete and inspected, the landowner will be reimbursed for 50% of the actual cost of implementing the plan, subject to project-specific practice and payment limits as described in the cost-share agreement.

## For More Information Please Contact:

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## How it works...

Landowner completes pre-application (located on NDFS website) and is grouped into a "pool" based on the date the pre-application is received by NDFS.



NDFS and partners work with the landowner to determine project eligibility, assess the condition of the windbreak and provide a written windbreak renovation plan.

**There is no obligation for the landowner to implement the windbreak renovation plan or to apply for a grant.**



If the landowner desires financial assistance to implement all or part of the windbreak renovation plan, they may apply for a grant from NDFS. Grant applications are currently being accepted on a continuous basis.



Currently, NDFS will generally approve or deny a windbreak renovation grant application within 30 days of receipt. If approved, the landowner will sign a cost-share agreement with NDFS. The landowner will have two years to complete the renovation and apply for reimbursement.