

FREE Shelterbelt Assessments Available!

As spring approaches and trees start leafing out, many rural landowners notice their shelterbelt doesn't look as green and healthy as it once did. There may be down branches or standing dead trees, or evidence of disease or pest infestations. The North Dakota Forest Service provides free shelterbelt assessments to landowners statewide.

Most shelterbelts reach their mature size within 20 years of planting. Although trees are long-lived and tree plantings are intended to give many years of protection, every shelterbelt should be inspected periodically to ensure it is still able to serve the purpose it was planted to perform.

NDFS foresters are available to inspect a shelterbelt and assess its effectiveness in protecting the farmyard or other structures it was planted to protect. The forester will work with the landowner to provide a written plan for maintaining the shelterbelt. The recommendations in the plan may be as simple as continued monitoring, or may include selective removals and replacements of just a few trees or an entire row. The assessment and plan is provided completely free of charge and the landowner is under no obligation to follow the recommended practices.

To schedule a shelterbelt assessment, please contact your local NDFS field office:

ND Forest Service
101 5th Street
Walhalla, ND 58282
(701) 549-2441

ND Forest Service
1037 Forestry Drive
Bottineau, ND 58318
(701) 228-3700

ND Forest Service
916 E. Interstate Ave., #4
Bismarck, ND 58503 (701)
328-9944

ND Forest Service
6824 Hwy 32 S. - P.O. Box
604 Lisbon, ND 58054
(701) 683-4323

Towner State Nursery
878 Nursery Road
Towner, ND 58788 (701)
537-5636



The mission of the NDSU-North Dakota Forest Service is to care for, protect and improve forest and natural resources to enhance the quality of life for present and future generations.