



Windbreak Renovation Initiative



What's a Windbreak?

For WRI, we define a windbreak as a system of multiple rows of trees and shrubs primarily designed and engineered to modify the flow of wind.

Most Likely a Windbreak:

- L-shaped or U-shaped tree planting surrounding a rural residence or farmyard consisting of multiple rows of trees and shrubs with each row being the same species within the row, but most rows being different from one another.
- Long, linear tree plantings across a farm field, usually from field edge to field edge. May be a system of single rows or one multiple-row planting.
- Living snow fence parallel to a roadway.

Most Likely NOT a Windbreak:

- Block-style wildlife plantings
- Native forest
- Shade trees (yard trees)
- Privacy screens
- Timber plantations or tree farms

If you're not sure if your trees are a windbreak, please ask!

How the North Dakota Forest Service (NDFS) Windbreak Renovation Initiative (WRI) Works

Step 1

Confirm that your trees ARE a windbreak.

**NDFS offers Technical Assistance to owners of
all TYPES OF FORESTS!**

Even if your trees aren't a Windbreak and therefore not eligible for WRI, we still want to help you maintain and protect them.

Please Contact Us for More Information!

Step 2

Request a **Windbreak Assessment** by visiting the NDFS website and completing the request form. Your Windbreak Assessment will include recommendations for maintaining, enhancing and improving your windbreak's function.

You may decide to follow the recommendations—or not! If not, you won't need to go to Step 3.

Step 3

Finalize your **Renovation Practices Map**.

Work with an NDFS forester to develop and finalize a two-year WRI Renovation Practices Map. This map will be very detailed and specific areas and acreages where windbreak practices will take place will be delineated.

Now You're Ready to Apply for a WRI Grant!

Step 4

Apply for a WRI Grant.

Please navigate back to the NDFS website for specific details about the WRI Grant Application Process. Grant Applications are only accepted during certain time periods and contracts are written during certain times; these are **not year-round**.

You will be notified if your application is successful and will be sent a Windbreak Renovation Contract that will be signed by you and then by the State Forester. Once the contract is signed by both parties, your grant is officially in place.

All relevant dates and timelines are posted on the NDFS website and we highly recommend you review them to be sure they meet your needs.

Step 5

Complete Your Renovation as shown on your Renovation Practices Map.

You are the manager of your renovation project and you are responsible following required practice specifications, for making sure you meet all the applicable project deadlines and keeping track of your receipts. But you are not alone– the North Dakota Forest Service is available to assist you along the way.

Step 6

Notify NDFS that your renovation is complete and request a final inspection.

Step 7

Submit Receipts and Reimbursement Documentation

NDFS staff will assist you with gathering your receipts and other documentation and submitting your reimbursement request. You will receive a check reimbursing you for a portion of your project costs (see forms for specific details.)

For More Information About WRI , Contact:

Liz Mars

Forest Stewardship Specialist

Phone: 701-683-4323 Ext 1

Elizabeth.Mars@ndsu.edu