

Shelterbelt Program Policy

Subject: Shelterbelt

Ref: ASB

CODE: 63

Date Approved: April 26, 2016

Motion No: 1342/26/04/16

Replaces: New

The County of Northern Lights believes in supporting healthy ecosystems within our County through the encouragement of shelterbelts.

Shelterbelts provide a windbreak, erosion control, drift protection, aesthetics, carbon sequestration, wildlife habitat for insects and wildlife. The County will administer a cost recovery shelterbelt program in conjunction with an approved supplier.

Chief Elected Official

Chief Administrative Officer

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The County will encourage the growth of shelterbelts to promote a healthier ecosystem.

2.0 AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 Will provide direction, supervision and resources to the Agricultural Fieldman for carrying out this policy.

3.0 AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN RESPONSIBILITIES

- 3.1 Will administer the program and negotiate with an approved supplier.
- 3.2 Will determine most desirable species and provide information to participants.
- 3.3 Will collect trees and oversee disbursement.

4.0 PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITIES

- 4.1 Will order, pay for and pick up trees from the County within the allotted times.
- 4.2 Will follow the guidelines for planting restrictions within the County, as outlined:
- Stay 15 m from a powerline.
 - When planting parallel to a roadside a participant will plant a minimum of 30 m from the property line or 40 m from the centre of the road.
 - When planting perpendicular to a roadside a participant will plant a minimum of 15 m from the property line or 25 m from the centre of the road.
 - When planning shelterbelts plan for the size of farming implements to be able to access land, if applicable.
 - Exceptions to the planting restrictions can be approved by Council on an individual basis.
- 4.3 Failure to adhere to the planting restrictions will render the participant liable for the removal of the shelterbelt.
- 4.4 Exceptions to planting restrictions may be approved by Council on an individual basis.

5.0 RECOVERY OF EXPENSES

- 5.1 The County will administer a cost recovery Shelterbelt Program.
- 5.2 Cost recovery will be based on the price established with an approved supplier plus the established fee for the County to administer the program.
- 5.3 Anyone wishing to participate in the Shelterbelt Program must not be indebted to the County in any amount greater than \$50.00.