



United States Department of Agriculture

# Tree/Shrub Planting Implementation Requirement

Natural Resources Conservation Service - Indiana – September 2022 (ver. 1.0)

## 612 Tree/Shrub Planting Plan

<b>Landowner:</b>				<b>County:</b>	
<b>Farm:</b>	<b>Tract:</b>	<b>Field(s):</b>	<b>Acres:</b>	<b>Date:</b>	
<b>Purpose:</b>					

<b>Soil Type(s):</b>			<b>Soil Drainage Class:</b>		
<b>Plant Spacing:</b>			<b>Plants/Acre:</b>		
Species	Number	Substitute Species	Number	Species	Number
<b>Total</b> (rounded to the next highest 100)			<b>Total</b> (rounded to the next highest 100)		

Before Planting	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tillage (in the year prior to planting):	Dates:
<input type="checkbox"/> Herbicide <sub>1</sub> (applied per label):	Dates:
<input type="checkbox"/> Herbicide <sub>2</sub> (applied per label):	Dates:
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	Dates:

Planting Method	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tree Planting Method:	Dates:
<input type="checkbox"/> Herbicide (applied per label):	Dates:
<input type="checkbox"/> Tree Protection or Fencing: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (If yes provide details in the Additional Information Section below.)	Dates:

Post Planting Maintenance and Weed Control	
<input type="checkbox"/> Maintain a 3-ft. weed & grass-free radius for up to _____ years around each tree for optimal growth	
<input type="checkbox"/> Herbicide (applied per label):	Dates:
<input type="checkbox"/> Replace dead trees to ensure 70% stocking rate:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	Dates:

Additional Information	
<b>Map of Tree Planting Area</b> (attach or insert map showing tree planting area, access to tree planting area, preferred row direction, any hazards or tree planting concerns):	

## SITE PREPARATION AND WEED CONTROL

Controlling weeds before, during, and after planting will increase tree survival and improve tree growth and vigor. Site preparation before planting is necessary to control existing grass or weedy vegetation. Contact a professional forester, Purdue University Extension Service or a licensed pesticide applicator for specific herbicide recommendations. Always apply herbicides according to labeled directions.

Control all weeds within a 3 foot circle around each tree or a 2 foot band along each side of each row. Control weeds in the spring before or during tree planting. On sites with existing sod, apply herbicides both in the fall and again in the spring prior or during tree planting.

Trees should be planted in firm ground; therefore avoid using spring tillage for site preparation prior to tree planting.

## PLANTING

Bare rooted stock (seedlings) will be planted in the spring after the ground thaws, but no later than June 1. Container stock may be planted between October 1 and June 1 as local soil moisture and weather conditions permit. Do not plant trees/shrubs when the soil is frozen or dry. Trees/shrubs will be planted in a vertical position with the root collars approximately at or slightly below the ground line (see Figure 1).

Plant materials should be planted immediately upon delivery to the site. It is important to keep plant materials moist to protect them from desiccation. If planting is delayed, contact NRCS for storage details.

It is important that tree species are randomly planted throughout the site and not planted with like species unless otherwise indicated in the planting plan.

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## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Check survivability of the planted species to insure that 70% of the desired stocking rate for the site is present 3 years after planting. Additional planting will be completed if it is determined that additional natural regeneration will not be sufficient to colonize the site within an acceptable time frame (usually 5 years).

Weeds should continue to be controlled after planting, using a 3 foot circle around each tree, or a 2 foot band along each side of each row as identified in the specifications sheet.

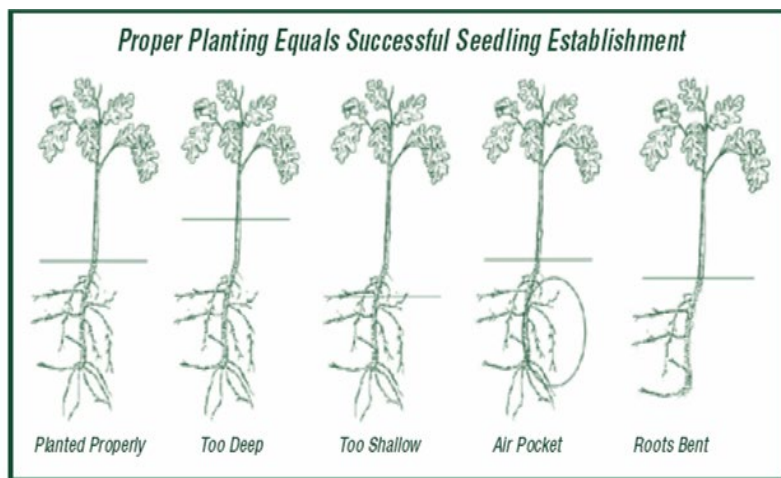
Mowing is not recommended for weed control because it encourages grass competition and can cause mechanical damage to trees. Mowing should only be considered when trees have been severely overtopped by competing vegetation, to prevent noxious weeds from developing seed, or to establish tree rows for a rescue herbicide treatment.

Livestock will be excluded from all tree plantings and noxious weeds, undesirable plants, insects, and pests should be controlled to ensure that the trees are established.

Prune trees if desired to maintain central stems and eliminate forks and multiple leaders.

Consider the impacts of wildlife damage on the success of the planting. Consult a professional forester for advice on minimizing wildlife impacts.

**Figure 1. Proper Seedling Planting**



Purdue University Extension, *Planting and Care of Fine Hardwood Seedlings*, FNR 210

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