

(422) Hedgerow Planting

FY 2017 Environmental Quality Incentives Program Requirement Sheet

A site- and species-specific wildlife habitat management plan is preferred for all EQIP applications. If no such plan has been approved by the NRCS area biologist or NRCS partner biologist, the conservation planners must follow this requirement sheet to address limiting habitat factors identified in the TN NRCS Wildlife Habitat Appraisal Guide (WHAG).

Eligible lands: Private agricultural lands needing wildlife habitat creation or enhancement and wildlife travel lanes. The practice purpose is to establish a vegetative cover of herbaceous and/or woody vegetation in, around, or across fields to provide wildlife food and cover benefits and serve as a wildlife corridor to facilitate animal movements.

EQIP Hedgerow/Wildlife Corridor Practice Requirements:

1. Lime and fertilizer are not required for trees, shrubs, or temporary cover unless legumes are used.
2. Do not hay or graze planted or renovated areas for the practice life.
3. Hedgerows/wildlife corridors shall be a minimum of 20 feet and a maximum of 50 feet in width.
4. Tree and Shrub Site Preparation (490) may be a required facilitating practice.
5. Follow herbicides labels. Follow practice 490 to eradicate invasive and sod-forming grasses such as tall fescue and Bermudagrass during site preparation when present. NRCS will not provide herbicide recommendations.
6. Single tree fencerows of large trees may be treated by cutting the trees with chainsaw and treating the stump with herbicide to control resprouting, if control is desirable, or they may be treated with the hack or girdle and squirt methods. Lay felled trees parallel with the fencerow. Eradicate chemically any pre-existing non-native grasses prior to cutting the trees. Do not push trees into piles.

Follow FY 2017 Approved Seeding Mixtures document for species selection, rates, and mixtures. NRCS area biologist or NRCS partner biologist may approve alternative species, rates, and mixtures.