

Kansas Forest Service

District Foresters

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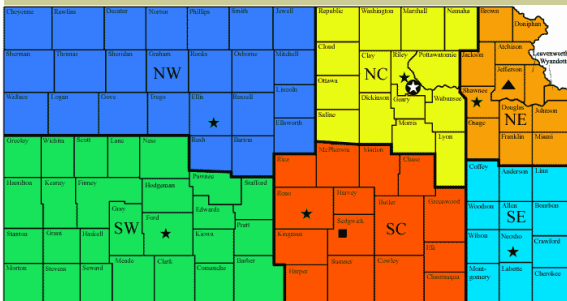
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A photo of one of many Kansas windbreaks in poor condition that is being renovated through CCPI and EQIP for Forestland Health. Recent inventories suggest 44 percent of Kansas windbreaks are in fair-to-poor condition and in need of renovation. There are an estimated 289,577 acres of windbreaks in Kansas that stretch a total of 43,436 miles and protect 579,221 acres of cropland, farmsteads, homes and livestock operations. Keeping Kansas windbreaks in “functioning condition” is an important goal of CCPI.



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Financial assistance for managing woodlands, windbreaks, and riparian forests

Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative (CCPI)



Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Forestland Health

Kansas Forest Service
785-532-3300

About the Program



The **Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative (CCPI)** provides financial assistance through the **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) for Forestland Health** to manage riparian forests and renovate old windbreaks in Kansas, Nebraska, and the Dakotas. Forestland, windbreaks, cropland, and grassland all have the potential to qualify for the program if a “resource concern” is identified. Primary resource concerns for the program are the health and condition of trees in windbreaks and forests, soil erosion of streambanks, and water quality issues associated with excessive sediment. Specific examples of resource concerns may include:

- ◆ Old windbreaks with gaps and dead trees or shrubs
- ◆ Streambank erosion where additional tree planting can provide long-term reduction in soil loss
- ◆ Forest or woodlands that are over crowded (need thinning), or would benefit from additional tree planting; or contain a high percentage of invasive or undesirable trees and shrubs

CCPI-EQIP for Forestland Health payment rates are based upon state-wide average costs.

Eligibility and Requirements

- ◆ CCPI and EQIP are available state-wide.
- ◆ Applicants must meet agricultural producer requirements for EQIP. Forestry practices qualify and are exempt from the \$1,000 annual minimum agricultural production requirement.
- ◆ Tenants may apply with written support from landowners.
- ◆ Land must have a “resource concern” as determined by Kansas Forest Service district foresters and/or NRCS district conservationists.
- ◆ A forest management plan or Forest Stewardship Management plan is required. Plans are prepared by KFS district foresters at no cost to the applicant. Plans are not required prior to application though they can speed up the process.

How to Apply

Applications are accepted continuously at county NRCS offices located in USDA Service Centers. However, the application evaluation period cutoff date for fiscal year 2012 is **November 15, 2011**. Locations and contact information are available on the Web at www.ks.nrcs.usda.gov. An EQIP Self-Assessment Worksheet for Forestland Health is located at the above Web address by clicking on Programs, EQIP and Kansas 2011 EQIP Information. Completing the worksheet before applying may improve ranking.

NRCS will refer applicants to a Kansas Forest Service district forester who will visit the property and develop a management plan to guide the project. NRCS will then rank and prioritize the application based on criteria developed for Forestland Health and fund accordingly. After contracts are obligated by NRCS and plans are completed applicants may begin their projects.

Eligible Practices and Rates*

A partial listing of practices and payment rates. Applicants are reimbursed at these rates.

Bareroot Seedling Planting	\$1.49/tree
Container Seedling Planting	\$2.57/tree
Direct Seeding	\$1,219.47/acre
Bareroot Seedling Planting with Tree Shelter	\$5.99/tree
Container Seedling Planting with Tree Shelter	\$7.07/tree
Herbicides (spot & banding)	\$48.75/acre
Herbicides (broadcasting)	\$135/acre
Weed Barrier Fabric (4x4)	\$2.59/each
Weed Barrier Fabric (6' roll)	\$0.56/lf**
Tree/Shrub Site Prep (medium)	\$375/acre
Tree/Shrub Site Prep (heavy)	\$720/acre
Coppicing for Reforestation	\$300–\$600/acre
Barbed or Woven Fence (4 or 5)	\$1.42/lf**
Forest Stand Improvement (Thinning)	\$97.50/acre
Windbreak Renovation (Tree/Shrub Removal)	\$0.98/lf**
Microirrigation—Drip System	\$2.52/tree

***Payment rates are subject to change.**

****lf - linear feet**

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