

### **Subdivision 600.0 Farmstead & Field Windbreak Plantings**

**601.0 Intent:** The Farmstead and Field Windbreak Management is intended to address specific unanswered questions throughout Lincoln County. Although unlike structures, they must be placed appropriately to serve their desired purpose of erosion, wind, snow, and water retention control and for an expedient response for plantings, because of the short period of time which tree planting must take place and to avoid the delay in tree planting due to variances, neighborhood disputes and disagreements.

- A. To preserve and enhance the aesthetics and scenic values of present plantings and to encourage increased tree planting throughout Lincoln County because of its natural prairie topography and to conserve agricultural topsoil.
- B. To enhance wildlife habitat, to create snow, wind and water retention areas and green space and other environmental uses beneficial to citizens of Lincoln County.

**602.0 Existing Farmstead Windbreaks and Field Windbreaks:** No person shall remove or destroy any SWCD Cost-Shared living field windbreak in the Rural Preservation areas of the County without first making an application for, and obtaining a conditional use permit. No such permit shall be issued unless the landowner has entered into a contractual restrictive agreement covenant providing for the implementation of an alternative erosion control plan meeting the standards and specifications agreed upon by the Lincoln County Soil and Water Conservation District. The restrictive covenant must be approved by the Planning Commission before the Conditional Use Permit is issued. No permit will be required for normal and necessary thinning of trees in the field windbreaks.

### **603.0 Standards for Height, Side, and Rearyard Lot Area Regulations:**

- A. New Farmstead windbreaks shall be at least one hundred (100) feet from the road right-of-way.
  - I. Exception: on existing farmsteads where plantings need to establish the required buffer zone from windbreak to structures on the site for proper function of the farmstead windbreak for wind and snow retention, approval by the appropriate road authority will be required.
- B. No trees will be allowed on any right-of-way when farmstead windbreaks or field windbreaks are replaced.
- C. Tree plantings under electrical highlines shall be of a shorter variety with a maximum of sixteen (16) feet at maturity.

- D. All field windbreaks shall maintain a one hundred fifty (150) feet setback from all public road intersections, all public road right of ways and railroad intersections except when waived by the appropriate road authorities.
- E. Existing farmstead windbreaks and the replacement of the windbreaks shall not extend beyond any structures on-site to allow for as much visual clearance as possible.
  - 1. Exception: Where persons request to plant on or closer to a property line, a waiver agreement may be used by the affected property owners and this agreement shall be recorded and on file at the Lincoln County Recorder's Office.