



Rural Municipality of Stanley

Policy PW05-21

Shelterbelt Program

Department: Public Works
Repeals Policy #: 2017 Shelterbelt Program
Last Updated: March 18, 2021
Adopted by Resolution #: 2021 135

This policy supersedes any prior policy dealing with the same matters.

Policy Statement:

The Municipality values and encourages agricultural shelterbelts and the benefits that properly placed and maintained shelterbelts provide to the Municipality as a whole.

The Municipality would like to provide a financial incentive to landowners who establish agricultural shelterbelts within the Municipality. The program is aimed at increasing the number of shelterbelts and is not intended for rural residential areas or other smaller settings.

Procedures:

Applicants wishing to establish new agricultural shelterbelt trees will contact the Municipality.

Proposals must be submitted on an approved application form and include:

- Tree species that grows well in local soil conditions
- Tree spacing
- Tree location
- Confirmation of on-going maintenance to be performed
- Proposed timeline
- Other information as required by the Municipality

The Municipality will review each application taking the following factors into consideration:

- Road safety and visibility
- Roadway traffic, speeds
- Future works anticipated within the ROW
- Snow drifting
- Snow storage
- Spring snow removal for flood prevention
- Soil drift
- Drainage – type/size/requirements of drainage impacted
- Species of trees
- Trees located adjacent to the subject property
- Other considerations the Municipality deems appropriate

General Requirements

- Applications are to be received from the landowner, not from contractors or outside agencies.
- Where trees will be located on part of/adjacent to the applicant's land, approval of neighboring landowner may be required.
- Applications are to be on parcels of land 40 acres or larger, applications on smaller pieces may be considered by the Municipality.
- Appropriate site preparation (tilling, chemicals, planting methods).
- Appropriate location approved by the RM.
- Tree row is to be kept weed free creating a favorable habitat for the trees to get established to be eligible for maintenance payments in years 2 and 3. If new growth of the trees is generally not evident payment may be denied.

Rebate

- Rebate of up to \$500 per ½ mile available for the establishment of the tree row.
- A rebate of \$500 per half mile will also be available for maintenance for the newly established shelterbelt for the subsequent 2 years.
- Only projects that have been previously approved by the Municipality under this program will be rebated.
- Maintenance rebates will be paid upon inspection of the tree row in fall of that year.
- Rebates will be issued upon final approval by the Municipality confirming requirements of the approved application were met.

Process

- Applicant submits proposal to the Municipality.
- The project is entered as a Shelterbelt Project and assigned a project # by the RM team.
- RM reviews/comments/adjusts.
- If denied: No appeal.
- If approved:
 - Approval is issued
 - Applicant completes installation
 - Applicant requests funding from the Municipality
 - The Municipality reviews finished project for conformity with approved plan
 - The Municipality issues cheque to the applicant upon successful review
 - Municipality inspect in fall of year 2 and 3
 - Municipality issues annual cheque for maintenance of tree row