

LAND PREPARATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SHELTERBELT'S

THESE REQUIREMENTS WILL BE ENFORCED

WEB-SITE: penningtonconservation.org

The Pennington Conservation District requires landowners who will be having the district machine-plant trees next spring to have their ground completely prepared by **October 1, or** the trees will not be ordered. The land on which trees and shrubs will be planted must be essentially free of sod and perennial weeds before planting. It is the landowners responsibility to make sure there is no residue from chemicals sprayed prior to planting. The site preparations **MUST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO OCTOBER 1**

- a. Plow the tree site to a depth of 12" to 24" and 12 foot wide if installing fabric
- b. Disk or rototill at least once more before planting trees in the spring
- c. You want mellow soil with no clods

It is very important that a tree plot gets a good start. Preparing the site is the very first good practice that can be done for a tree planting. An ideal situation would be to have the site kept weed free for a year in advance of tree planting. This gets rid of difficult perennial vegetation and stores water at depths from which a trees root system will be securing moisture.

A well prepared planting site should not have anything that will interfere with the planting operation. The cost of machine planting is \$2.80 per tree, this includes the price of the tree. A 50% downpayment is required before we will order the trees. We require a minimum purchase of 200 trees in order to perform a planting.

HEELING TREES IN AND WATERING

Immediately after planting heeling the tree in will help increase the survival rate. This is not included in the tree planting and should be completed by the landowner. "Heeling In" is making sure the tree or shrub is at the proper depth and then compacting the soil around the roots to remove any air pockets. This is best done by hand using firm heel pressure.

THE TREES NEED TO BE WATERED AS SOON AS THEY ARE PLANTED.

TRACTOR

The producer must provide a minimum 50 HP tractor and driver.

FABRIC

If there is 10 to 12 inches of loose soil, you get a better cover on your fabric edges, a strip 12 foot wide should be worked up when planting trees with fabric to be installed. The rows should be 12-20 foot apart and 12 foot from any fence.

The cost of the fabric and installation is .80 cents a lineal foot. A 50% downpayment is required before installation. A \$50.00 set-down fee will be charged for any fabric installation less then 900 feet.

POWER LINES

DO NOT plant trees or shrubs under power lines or near transformer cabinets. When planning where to place the tree planting, identify the location of any utilities such as buried or overhead power lines.

Plan the plantings so that they do not interfere with the easement area.

The line crews need easy access to perform maintenance and repairs.

BEFORE YOU DIG, CALL SOUTH DAKOTA ONE CALL (1-800-781-7474) AT LEAST 48 HOURS BEFORE DIGGING TO MAKE SURE NO UTILITY LINES ARE BURIED WHERE YOU PLAN TO PLANT TREES OR SHRUBS.