

The Trees for Streams Program

Fact Sheet

Do you own land along a stream or river in Windham County? We can help plan and implement a buffer planting on your property. For qualified sites, the district provides:

- Planning services
- Free trees
- Free planting labor
- Follow-up monitoring and maintenance support

To learn more and find out if you qualify, please contact the district via email at windhamcountynrcd@gmail.com

OR

At 802-689-3024





Site Requirements and Program Details:

- -Land **must** be along a stream or river. This *can* include intermittent or seasonal streams
- -The riverbanks must be stable enough to support trees. The State will not fund plantings that are likely to wash away in the next flood.
- -The width of the planted buffer MUST be at least 35 feet wide. When the trees grow tall *you will no longer be able to view the river* through any planted sections. Wider buffers are encouraged and may be funded up to 100 feet wide.
- -The landowner will be required to sign a 10-year operation and maintenance agreement for the site. This agreement will require the landowner to allow the district or state to visit the site (with notice, of course) to monitor the success of the project. The operation and maintenance agreement will also require the landowner to provide standard maintenance, such as watering the trees in a drought. The landowner will be prohibited from cutting down the trees for at least ten years.

*please note: the district may be able to provide support for the first 3 years after the planting, which can include replanting if the planting experiences a high mortality rate.

-The site must be relatively free of invasive species prior to a planting. If your site has significant woody invasives, the district may be able to help find funding for invasives management. Please note that this will lengthen the time frame for project completion.

Upon contacting us, the district will:

- Conduct a brief desktop review using satellite imagery
- If the site looks feasible, we'll plan a site visit to measure out the buffer width and take site photos. We may bring representatives from the State, NRCS, US Fish and Wildlife and other partner agencies to help coordinate the best funding options for your property. If you schedule a visit you are under no obligation to proceed with the planting.
- It will typically take 9 months to a year to progress from initial contact to a planting taking place. This can be longer if invasive species need to be managed. For example, if you reach out to the district between March and September of 2022, we would seek to complete the planting either in the spring or fall of 2023.