

Conservation Reserve Program

CP-17A

LIVING SNOW FENCES

Snow Management | Habitat Enhancement | Erosion Control



Why Choose CRP? You Benefit. Land, Water and Wildlife Benefit.

Living snow fences are designed to manage wind driven snow build-up, and enhance wildlife habitat. The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) provides farmers and landowners with practices like this to achieve many farming and conservation goals. Whatever the conservation challenge - soil conservation, water quality protection or wildlife habitat enhancement - CRP is a proven land performance and management solution.

Why Living Snow Fences?

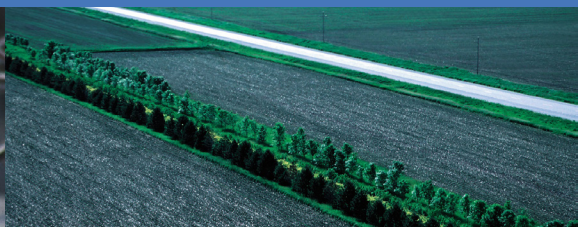
Planting rows of trees or shrubs on cropland can reduce the damaging impacts of snowdrift. Oriented perpendicular to prevailing winds, snow can be redirected to designated areas, enabling the strategic protection of roadways, structures, people and animals. In addition, snow fences also provide vital cover for a wide range of wildlife and attract beneficial insects and pollinators throughout the year. Offered in **continuous sign-up**, CP-17A:

- Reduces wind erosion
- Protects crops, livestock and homesteads
- Increase bee pollination
- Ccreates habitat and safe travel paths for wildlife

Financial Benefits

CP-17A participants are guaranteed:

- 10-15 years of annual rental payments
- Payments covering up to 90% of the eligible costs of establishing the practice
 - 50% from a Cost-Share Payment and
 - 40% from a Practice Incentive Payment (PIP)
- Sign-up Incentive Payment (SIP) up to \$100/acre
- Maintenance Rate Incentive
- Mid-Contract Management Cost Share



Eligible Land

- Planted or considered planted 4 out of 6 years between 2008 and 2013
- Capable of being planted to an agricultural commodity
- Suitable for planting trees
- Compliant with USDA's highly erodible land and wetland provisions

Practice Requirements

- Noxious weeds and other undesirable plants, insects and pests shall be controlled
- Practice shall be maintained without additional cost-share payments

Owner/Operator Eligibility

Participants must:

- Have owned or operated the land for more than 12 months prior to program sign-up
- Be in control of the land for the length of the contract
- Meet USDA payment eligibility provisions

Obligations

Participants will:

- Not harvest or graze the practice area
- Work with USDA-approved conservationist to develop a conservation plan
- Perform periodic management activities according to the conservation plan
- Complete planting of the practice within 12 months of the effective date of the contract

Proven Conservation Benefits

- In prime habitat, a 4% increase in CRP vegetation is associated with a 22% increase in pheasant counts
- CRP reduced nutrient losses in FY 2014 by an estimated 542 million pounds of nitrogen and 108 million pounds of phosphorus
- In 2014, CRP lowered greenhouse gas emissions by the equivalent of 43 million metric tons of CO₂ – the same benefits as taking nearly 8 million cars off the road for a year

FSA will ultimately determine participant and land eligibility.

For More Information:

Contact your local USDA, Farm Service Agency:

<http://offices.usda.gov>