



RIDEAU VALLEY RURAL CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

Buffer Strips, Windbreaks, Shelter Belts

Project Intent: To prevent and/or reduce soil erosion and sediment and nutrient runoff to surface water; to protect and/or re-establish natural riparian lands; to provide natural vegetative buffer adjacent to a waterbody or wetland

Eligible Project Components

- ▶ Site retirement through planting and/or renaturalization of actively pastured, tilled or cropped lands in proximity to, or adjoining a watercourse or wetland area
- ▶ Site preparation

Technical Details/ Considerations

- ▶ An Environmental Farm Plan (third edition or newer) or a Healthy Home Guide (for non-farm rural landowners) is required
- ▶ Project must demonstrate a potential to protect or improve surface water quality through retirement of lands via establishment of buffer strips/windbreaks/shelterbelts as protective vegetation
- ▶ A Renaturalization Plan will be required, including site preparation, planting specifics (species, planting density, numbers) and 1st year tending/maintenance
- ▶ Applicant will enter into agreement with the RVCA to implement the planting plan
- ▶ The use of native vegetation for planting will generally be required to increase success rates

- ▶ Applicable regulatory approvals must be obtained prior to funding under the RVCWP
- ▶ Riparian buffers may be required, consistent with municipal setbacks for waterfront activity (minimum buffers may be 15 or 30 metres from water, or to a specified distance upland from top of bank)
- ▶ Livestock shall be restricted to the area outside the “retired” lands (see livestock access sheet)

Eligible Costs

- ▶ Required permits and approvals
- ▶ Purchased materials for site preparation, planting and tending
- ▶ Contract and professional labour/design
- ▶ Additional funds may be available for second year infill (materials only)
- ▶ Equipment Rental

Ineligible Costs

- ▶ Labour and machinery use of the applicant, family dependants and the applicant’s business
- ▶ Commercial stock
- ▶ Exotic, invasive plant materials
- ▶ Tax (HST)

It is the applicant’s responsibility to meet all municipal, provincial and/or federal regulatory or legal requirements

Maximum Cost Share Available

Buffers 90%
Windbreaks & Shelter Belts 75%

Maximum Grant

Buffers —\$7,500
Windbreaks & Shelter Belts \$6,000

Questions? Contact RVCA at 613 692 3571 or 1 800 267-3504.

Note: Projects completed prior to contacting RVCA will not be eligible for funding.

