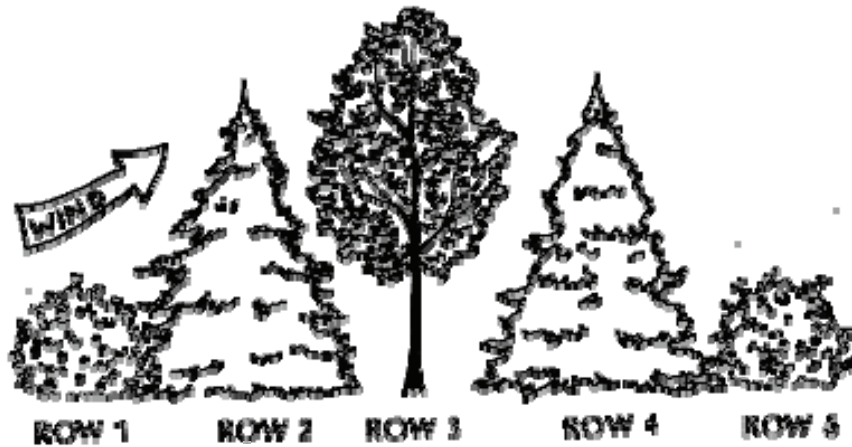


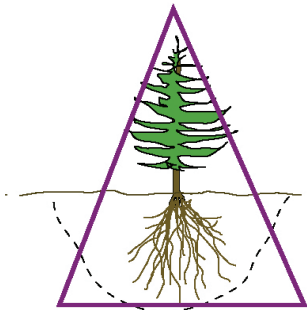
## Site Preparation and Planting

The row arrangement and tight spacing between plants in windbreaks and hedgerows lends itself to mechanical site preparation and irrigation. The entire area proposed for planting can be cultivated to reduce competition from grass and weeds, and to eliminate rodent habitat. Otherwise, prepare individual planting holes by scalping away the sod, or sheet compost the entire area.



Sheet composting involves layering newspaper or cardboard with standard composting materials to a depth of 6-9 inches. The sheet composting functions much like any other mulch with the added benefit of killing the existing plants (provided they are not woody and do not spread by rhizomes or stolons) and creating good growing conditions for your new plants. Sheet composting is most effective if started in the fall.

### **The Proper Way to Plant**



**SATISFACTORY!**

Arrange the plantings in rows to make mowing easier. Space trees 10-15 feet apart, and shrubs 3-6 feet apart. Mulching around each plant will help inhibit weeds and conserve water. All new plantings need supplemental water throughout the growing season until they are well established (2-3 years). If you are planting in a grassy area, it is advisable to use plant protectors to protect against pesky rodents and weed whackers, and to help you find your plants when the grass gets tall.

# HEDGEROWS & WINDBREAKS



Windbreaks and hedgerows are functional plantings designed to redirect air movement, provide shelter from the wind, screen views and provide privacy, define space, and delineate property lines or other areas. They also provide habitat for wildlife and can be aesthetic landscape features.

This brochure provides basic information about design, plant selection and planting of hedgerows and windbreaks. The plants listed are all recommended for Clallam County.



## **CLALLAM CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

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## Hedgerows

Hedgerows are like short, narrow windbreaks. They form low impenetrable barriers, provide some shelter from wind and wildlife habitat, and may serve as insectaries for beneficial insects.

Shrubs dominate hedgerows. Occasional small trees may be added for interest and diversity. Shrubs typically reach about 10' in height but most can be sheared. Space plants 2-6 feet apart, depending on how rapidly you want the hedge to fill in.

Listed below are some recommended native shrubs and small trees for hedgerows. A diverse planting is good insurance against pests and diseases and generally increases habitat value. However, at least 50 percent of a hedgerow should be made up of one or two thicket-forming species that provide the foundation for the hedge, filling in voids as they grow.

THICKET FORMERS	COMMENTS
Nootka Rose	Drought-tolerant, quick to establish, thorny
Snowberry	Drought-tolerant, fairly quick to establish
Thimbleberry	Drought-tolerant, fairly quick to establish
Salmonberry	Moist to wet sites, sun or shade, thorny
Tall Oregon Grape	Drought-tolerant evergreen, moderate spreader
SHRUBS for ADDED INTEREST and HABITAT	
Red-Flowering Currant	Drought-tolerant, prefers sun, beautiful blossoms
Oceanspray	Drought-tolerant, fast-growing
Evergreen Huckle-	Drought-tolerant, prefers some shade
Indian Plum	Drought-tolerant, prefers some shade
Redosier Dogwood	Fast-growing, prefers moist, well-drained soil
Mock-Orange	Prefers sun, well drained soil, slow to establish
Douglas Maple	Fast-growing small tree
Serviceberry	Medium-growing small tree
Black Hawthorn	Medium-growing small tree, very sharp spines
Elderberry	Medium-growing small tree

## Windbreaks

Where space allows, a woodlot planting of various species of conifers, deciduous trees, and shrubs makes a great windbreak. On small lots or in tight spaces, plantings need to be arranged for maximum wind protection in minimal space.

The general rule of thumb is to plant at least two staggered rows of trees and one row of shrubs. At least one of the tree rows should be conifers and the other can be faster-growing deciduous trees. The shrubs provide ground-level shelter, habitat, and aesthetic diversity. Trees are generally spaced 10-15' apart.

Listed below are some recommended native trees for windbreaks. The shrubs in the *Hedgerows* list are good choices for the shrub row.

CONIFERS	COMMENTS
Douglas Fir	Drought-tolerant, prefers sun
Shore Pine	Drought-tolerant, prefers sun
Grand Fir	Sun to part shade
Western Redcedar	Best for wetter sites, seedlings prefer part
Sitka Spruce	Best for wetter sites near marine areas
DECIDUOUS TREES	
Red Alder	Fast-growing, weak wooded
Scouler Willow	Fast-growing, weak wooded upland willow
Black Cottonwood	Fast-growing tall tree for moist, well-drained soil
Bigleaf Maple	Fast-growing, wide-spreading crown
Bitter Cherry	Fast-growing, invasive—new trees sprout from spreading roots
Douglas Maple	Fast-growing small tree
Serviceberry	Medium-growing small tree
Black Hawthorn	Medium-growing small tree, very sharp spines
Pacific Crabapple	Medium-growing small tree; prefers moist sites
Elderberry	Medium-growing small tree