

## Rural Roadside Backsloping and Field Shelterbelt

### Policy Statement

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In order to promote soil conservation, Strathcona County will support practices including Backsloping projects and the planting of Field Shelterbelts within approved budget parameters and the terms of this policy. Landowners may apply for assistance with rural roadside Backsloping and Field Shelterbelt projects from Strathcona County.

### Purpose

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The purpose of this policy is to establish service levels for rural roadside Backsloping and Field Shelterbelt projects within Strathcona County on rural roadsides adjacent to agricultural land.

### Definitions

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Backsloping – preliminary cleanup, shaping and contouring of the roadside from the bottom of the ditch bottom to a line within the private land for the purpose of soil conservation.

Landowner – any person who is registered under the *Land Titles Act* in Strathcona County as the owner of land or any person other than the registered owner who is in possession of the property including, but not restricted to, a lessee, licensee, tenant or agent of the landowner.

Field Shelterbelt – a linear planting of trees on or adjacent to agricultural land for the purpose preventing soil loss to wind erosion.

### Guidelines

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Strathcona County will:

- Evaluate applications as they are received and prioritize them based on assessment of erosion risk, current agricultural use and parcel area.
- Prioritize locations upon receipt of an application from a Landowner or identification of potential locations by County staff.
- Assist Landowners in designing projects.
- Support construction of the project subject to approved budget and funding.

Landowners will:

- Replace, or install new fencing where required at their sole cost.
- Complete construction not provided by Strathcona County.
- Purchase, install, and maintain all Field Shelterbelt materials.

## Policy Record

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12/12/2006; 06/25/91

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826/2006; 565/91

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**Administrative Review:** Transportation and Agriculture Services