

Table 1. Recommended species and spacing for windbreak plantings.

**Shrubs** - space plants 4 feet apart in rows and 6 feet apart between rows

Dogwoods	American Highbush Cranberry
Ninebark	

**Small Trees** - space plants 8 feet apart in rows and 10 feet apart between rows

Crabapple	Hawthorne
Wild Plum	

**Conifers** - space 8 feet apart in rows and 10-15 feet apart between rows

Norway Spruce	White Spruce
White Pine	Red Pine
White Cedar	

**Hardwoods** - space 10 feet apart in rows and 10-15 feet apart between rows.

Green Ash	Imperial Carolina Poplar
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Table 2. Recommended species for each row in windbreak planting.

**Windward Row** (Row 1)

Norway Spruce	White Spruce (northern 2/3 of state only)
White Cedar	Ninebark
Dogwoods	American Highbush Cranberry
Wild Plum	

**Interior Row** (Row 2)

White Pine	Red Pine (northern 2/3 of state only)
Green Ash	Imperial Carolina Poplar

**Leeward Rows** (Rows 3, 4, and 5)

Norway Spruce	White Spruce (northern 2/3 of state only)
White Cedar	Ninebark
Dogwoods	American Highbush Cranberry
Wild Plum	Crabapple
Hawthorne	

**Snow Trap** (optional)

Dogwood	Ninebark
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## Long Term Maintenance

Like children, windbreaks require a little nurturing and maintenance in the early years. Protect your planting from livestock and fire. These young plants are especially attractive to cattle. Your investment of time and money is worth protecting with a fence.

Weed control in the year after establishment is very important. Within the first year, invading grasses and weeds can threaten a young windbreak. This weed control is best accomplished with herbicides, but cultivation, mowing, mulches, and hand weeding are all effective alternatives. The reduction of heavy grass buildup around the plants reduces habitat for mice and voles.

Replace dead trees and shrubs every spring until you have 100 percent survival. Normally, replacement is made the following season and requires hand-planting.

Newly planted windbreaks are subject to invasion by many undesirable species, such as willow, boxelder, elm, honeysuckle, and buckthorn. Hand removal in the seedling stage with a sharp grub hoe is the most efficient way to remove them.