



Management Assistance Program Information & Cost Share Rates Watershed Agricultural Council



Timber Stand Improvement (TSI)

TSI is to a forest what weeding is to a garden: It allows certain species to be favored. It enhances the growth and quality of timber by removing poor quality trees and making room for good quality tree crowns to grow.

Requirements:

- Tree marking must be conducted by a Watershed Qualified Forester.
- Cutting and, if desired, removal can be conducted by any individual, with preference given to a NYS Trained Certified Logger (TLC).
- Tree designation will be according to a silvicultural prescription identified in the Watershed Forest Management Plan.
- Cost sharing is not authorized unless the stand is actually improved by the cull tree removal or thinning.

Cost Share Rates:

Tree designation	\$21.22 per acre
Cull tree removal	\$47.74 per acre
Light thinning (10-20 sqft BA removed)	\$63.65 per acre
Medium thinning (21-40 sqft BA removed)	\$95.48 per acre
Heavy thinning (41+ sqft BA removed)	\$116.70 per acre

Tree Planting

Tree planting is to encourage the growth of forest cover through site preparation, planting, tree shelters, and fencing for the purpose of timber production, carbon sequestration, and cleaner water.

Requirements:

- Planting is limited to non-invasive or naturalized species and cannot be used for orchard, ornamental, nursery or Christmas tree purposes.
- There must be a minimum of 200 hardwood seedling and 500 softwood seedlings planted per acre.
- The applicant is responsible for finding someone to do the site preparation, planting, spacing and protective measures.
- Tree Shelters

Cost Share Rates:

Hardwood seedlings	\$265.23 per acre
Softwood seedlings	\$265.23 per acre
Tree shelters	\$4.24 each
Fencing	\$2.12 per linear ft

Stream Bank (Riparian) Improvement

By planting shrubs and/or trees adjacent to a non forested stream you can improve trout habitat, slow run off into the stream, trap sediment before it enters the stream, and protect stream banks. Non forested wetland banks can also be planted to keep water clean, and shaded. Cost share available: \$318.27/acre.

Requirements:

- Planting of non forested stream bank (riparian) areas with at least three rows of planted shrubs and/or trees at a maximum spacing of 12'x12' adjacent to water bodies.
- Only non-invasive native or naturalized plant species, approved by a Watershed Ag Council Forester, may be used.
- The applicant is responsible for doing the work or finding someone to do the work.

Tree shelters, to protect plantings from deer, can be cost shared for this project by applying for them in the TREE PLANTING section.

of acres _____ @ \$318.27/acre = _____

Invasive Plant Control

To eradicate (get rid of) or control the spread of non-native and native invasive plants that interfere with the attainment of forest management goals. Cost share available: \$212.18/acre and \$53.05/acre.

Requirements:

- Invasive plant control must be addressed in the applicant Watershed Forest Management Plan prior to the submission of the application.
- The applicant is responsible for finding someone to do the eradication or control.

Guidelines:

- These can be looked up on our website or provided upon request to help an applicant realize how to go about eradicating or controlling an invasive plant.
- Species considered invasive for the purpose of this practice include:

American Beech	Mile-a-minute	Swallowwort
Autumn Olive	Multiflora Rose	Tree of Heaven
Buckthorn	New York Fern	*Grape Vines
Bush Honeysuckles	Norway Maple	Winged Euonymus
Hay-scented Fern	*Oriental Bittersweet	
Japanese Barberry	Russian Olive	

of acres (trees/shrubs) _____ @ \$212.18/acre = _____

of acres (*vines) _____ @ \$53.05/acre = _____

The following practices are offered to help create, protect or maintain wildlife habitat:

1. WILDLIFE CROP TREE RELEASE:

This practice will attract deer and turkey by increasing or maintaining the natural food supply produced by trees for wildlife. The best crop trees available should be found (preferably nut/fruit producers like oak, hickory, cherry, etc.). Surrounding trees that interfere or slow the growth of these crop trees should be cut down, leaving 20 – 30 feet between the canopy of the crop tree and competing neighboring trees. This frees the crop trees from competition so they have room to grow, are healthier and will have more energy to put towards seed production.

trees _____ @ \$21.22/tree = _____

2. FRUIT TREE RELEASE/PRUNING:

Naturally occurring apple trees (and other fruit trees) grow in clearings and field edges, where they provide food throughout the year for numerous birds, insects and mammals. As forests grow, these fruit trees become overgrown and shaded. Shaded trees lose vigor causing them to produce less fruit. To pursue this practice you need to find the fruit trees, clear out above and around them as well as prune them. This increases their health and allows them to produce more fruit.

trees _____ @ \$21.22/tree = _____

3. SEEP PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT:

Seep springs are places where water emerges naturally from the ground. In upland forest and hillside conditions, these wetland areas are particularly valuable to wildlife. They are very important as a water source in midwinter; when many water sources are frozen, these seeps remain snow free. This practice will identify a seep buffer area maintained as a no-equipment zone, closing all forest roads located in the seep buffer. Forestry staff will make recommendations for relocating future trail systems outside this area and specific management activities that will enhance the wildlife habitat opportunities.

acres _____ @ \$257.50/acre = _____

Stand location from management plan: ____ (prescription for seep depends upon stand condition)

Presence of trail system ____ (must be willing to relocate trail)

Presence of livestock ____ (must be willing to permanently exclude livestock)

4. SNAG AND CAVITY TREE DEVELOPMENT:

Cavities in trees are widely used by birds, mammals, and insects for: nesting, resting, feeding, escape from predators, and winter storm protection. Snags are dead trees that remain standing. Snags are important for perching foragers like flycatchers and raptors and often are, or become, cavity trees as well. Bald eagle, Coopers' Hawk, Sharp-shinned hawk, Red-shouldered hawk, Northern goshawk, Olive-sided flycatcher, Prothonotary warbler, and wood peckers use cavity or snag trees. This practice will identify and reserve 2 to 8 snags per acre, or girdle (cut into the trunk at least 1" all the way around the tree, to stop nutrient flow up the tree and slowly kill the tree) live trees to make new snags. These snag and cavity trees need to be protected from disturbance like during a timber harvest. To get more information on how to actually carry out this practice visit our website or request a copy of some guidelines.

trees _____ @ \$25.75 /tree = _____

5. WILDLIFE SEEDING IN A FOREST OPENING:

This practice helps in the establishment of seeded food plots to attract and provide food for game and non-game wildlife. Food plot establishment starts with clearing the existing ground cover, then applying lime and nutrient fertilizer as needed based upon the required soil test (and the soil requirements of the plant seed). Openings must be at least ¼ acre but not greater than 5 acres. To get more information on how to actually carry out this practice visit our website or request a copy of some guidelines.

acres _____ @ \$159.14 /acre = _____

6. EARLY SUCCESSIONAL HABITAT MANAGEMENT or CREATING A PLACE FOR WILDLIFE TO LIVE:

The goal with this management is to promote three stages of plant community (habitat) that provides food and shelter for certain birds and animals. Early successional habitat is becoming increasingly rare in NYS as mature forest becomes the dominant land type. Below is information on these three different communities. To get more information on how to actually carry out this practice visit our website or request a copy of some guidelines.

a. Grassland Habitat:

This area provides diverse insect populations, an abundance of forage and dense cover for Eastern Bluebird, American Goldfinch, and Bobolink. The goal with this practice is to keep the milkweed, goldenrod and aster mix seen in old abandoned fields. To maintain this habitat mowing (brush hogging) will be done once every 5 years between August 1 and April 30. You should have areas of old abandoned field to carry out this practice.

acres _____ @ \$51.50/acre = _____

(options b & c are continued on the following page)

