Native Plants for Windbreaks, Screens or Windy Sites

A designed planting of trees and shrubs can be effective as a windbreak, visual screen or sound barrier, and can help reduce dust and odor from nearby roads or farm operations.

A windbreak should always consist of more than one species. This helps prevent the loss of the entire windbreak should pests or diseases occur on certain species. Both evergreen and deciduous species should be used. Several planting rows are more effective than a single row. Many resources are available on the web and at your local extension office on the design and spacing of windbreaks.

The following trees and shrubs are suitable for use in a designed windbreak and are reported to be able to tolerate wind. As with all native plant selection, remember ‘Right Plant, Right Place’ – select species suited for the soil, sun and moisture at the site. The signage with each plant in the nursery will help you determine if it is suited for your site.

### TREES AND SHRUBS

- **Acer saccharinum** – Silver Maple
- **Aesculus parviflora** - Bottlebrush buckeye,
- **Alnus rugosa** – Speckled Alder
- **Amelanchier** – Serviceberry
- **Celtis occidentalis** - Hackberry
- **Chamaecyparis thyoides** - Atlantic white cedar
- **Clethra alnifolia** - Summersweet
- **Cornus amomum** - Silky dogwood
- **Cornus florida** – Dogwood
- **Cornus racemosa** - Gray dogwood
- **Cornus sericea** – Red Twig dogwood
- **Corylus americana** - Hazelnut
- **Crataegus** - Hawthorn
- **Fothergilla major** - Large Fothergilla
- **Hypericum species**(187,700),(357,738) – St. John’s Wort
- **Ilex verticillata** - Winterberry Holly
- **Juniperus virginiana** – Eastern Red Cedar
- **Liriodendron tulipifera** – Tulip Tree
- **Malus sp.** – Crabapples
- **Physocarpus opulifolius** - Ninebark.
- **Picea glauca** – White Spruce
- **Pinus rigida** - Pitch Pine
- **Pinus strobus** - White Pine
- **Pinus taeda** – Loblolly Pine
- **Platanus occidentalis** - Sycamore
- **Populus tremuloides** – Quaking Aspen
- **Prunus americana** – Wild plum
- **Quercus alba** - White oak
- **Quercus bicolor** – Swamp white oak
- **Quercus macrocarpa** – Bur Oak
- **Quercus rubra** - - Red oak
- **Quercus velutina** – Black oak
- **Rhus copallina** - Flameleaf sumac
- **Rosa spp.** - - Roses
- **Sorbus americana** – American Mountain Ash
- **Symphoricarpos** – Snowberry, Wolfberry

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Taxodium distichum - Baldcypress
Thuja occidentalis - American Arborvitae
Tilia americana – American Linden
Tsuga canadensis -Canadian hemlock
Viburnum dentatum -Arrowwood viburnum
Viburnum lentago - Nannyberry

Seven Reasons to Buy Native Plants at Edge of the Woods

- All plants are nursery propagated. We do not deplete natural populations by collecting from the wild.
- Our staff is highly educated and knowledgeable. We know native plants and their life cycles. We’ve worked with them in gardens and landscapes for many years. The nursery has accurate and informative signage and literature to help you learn about native plants.
- We focus on the roots of the plant. Leaves come and go. Strong roots are needed for good establishment.
- We offer genetically diverse crops, and local genotypes whenever possible.
- We do not use artificial growth hormones.
- We use a minimal amount of pesticides. Our plants may have leaves that have been eaten --this means they are doing their job in the ecosystem

WHY HAVE HEDGEROWS AND WINDBREAKS?

Create a visual barrier for privacy
Wind barriers can reduce airborne dust
When placed on the sunny side of a home, can reduce cooling cost
When blocking the wind, can reduce heating costs in the home
Provides habitat for wildlife
Attracts pollinators

If wind is not an issue, any species can be placed in a hedgerow. A diverse planting provides the most habitat, and is the most resistant to insect pests and disease.

When considering if an evergreen species is needed for your visual screen, remember: winter branches provide architectural interest and help divert attention from unwanted view. Consider the time of year you need to block the view. If you need to block a view from your outdoor living area in summer, how important is it to be evergreen?