

Windbreaks



Field windbreaks are linear plantings of trees designed to reduce wind speed in open fields and are typically planted in one or two rows at right angles to the prevailing wind.

Field Windbreak Benefits



Controlling Wind Erosion

Windbreaks protect the topsoil from wind erosion to a distance 10 to 15 times the height of the trees. Wind protection provided by treed windbreaks can also benefit crop yields.

Water Quality & Other Benefits

Windbreaks provide many benefits for water quality, food and shelter for wildlife, and more:

- Windbreaks planted on slopes help slow runoff and reduce soil erosion.
- Improved wildlife habitat – windbreaks offer travel corridors to connect woodlots.
- Windbreaks reduce blowing and drifting snow.
- Recreational opportunities – windbreaks create sheltered corridors for walking, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling.



In addition to water quality benefits, windbreaks create sheltered corridors for people to further enjoy their property.



Windbreaks can be machine-planted to ensure they are straight, and conducive to adjacent farming practices.



Windbreaks protect crops from wind damage and enhance crop yield.



Cover crops may aid windbreak establishment by suppressing competing vegetation.

Call us about windbreaks on your property

To find out more:

Huron Clean Water Project staff are available to work with you to plan your buffer.

To learn more about windbreak benefits, design, and maintenance, contact Ausable Bayfield or Maitland Valley stewardship staff. Please see contact information below.



Call us at **519-235-2610** or **519-335-3557** or visit our websites to find out more:
huroncounty.ca/plandev/county-wide-projects/water-protection • abca.ca • mvca.on.ca