



AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

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Red Deer County, AB T4S 2L9
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Tree Planter Rental Guidelines

Red Deer County crews will provide and maintain shelterbelts tree planting equipment, available to Red Deer County residents. The renter agrees to follow all recommended Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) and plant shelterbelts according to Red Deer County setbacks which require that trees be planted a minimum of 66 feet (20 metres) from the property line on rural and secondary roads.

Red Deer County will supply its residents with the rental tree planter provided the following conditions have been or will be met:

1. The area has been worked and kept weed free the previous year.
2. The landowner or representative is on site at time of planting.
3. The tree planting equipment is used in a safe manner according to the SOP's.
4. The landowner or representative, will pick-up and drop-off tree planting equipment at the Red Deer County Ag. Shop.
5. A deposit of \$150 will be placed at the time of rental, to cover possible missing, lost or damaged equipment.
- 6. The tree planting equipment is to be cleaned before returning to Red Deer County, preferably at the planting site.**
7. An operator and a tractor of 40hp or greater with standard PIONEER hydraulic connections is provided.
8. The placement of tree line is setback a minimum of 66 feet (20 metres) from the property line.**

For more information, call the Red Deer County Agricultural Service Department at (403) 350-2163.

** If the landowner wishes to plant the shelterbelt closer to the property line than the required 66 feet (20 metres), he/she will be required to enter into an agreement with Red Deer County that will be registered on the land title. Said agreement will contain a clause that any future relocation of the shelterbelt trees required due to a County future road widening project will be at the sole cost of the landowner

Tree Planting Recommendations for Landowners

Care of Trees before planting:

- Bundles should be moist not wet, as over watering will cause mold
- Trees should be kept in a cool dark place
- If necessary, spade individual bundles into ground, in shade, then water

Before Planting:

- Soil should be free of vegetation
- Soil should not be cultivated to a depth greater than 1-3" as deep cultivation will loosen the soil too much. A mechanical tree planter cannot perform effectively in loose soil.
- If you are going to be using the tree planter have a planting diagram available (ex: tree spacing, spacing between rows)
- Leave at least as much space between rows of trees as the width of the cultivating equipment you plan to use, plus several feet on each side for clearance
- Evergreens should not be planted any closer than 16 feet to deciduous trees.
- Trees must be planted at least 66 feet (20 meters) from the property line as per the County of Red Deer bylaw

After Planting:

- CHECK ALL TREES immediately after planting to ensure straightness and firmness.
- If required step around trees to pack soil
- Water trees when necessary (approx. 1 gal/seedling)
- Fence against livestock
- Remove dead trees when they occur
- Watch for and treat against disease and insect damage
- Continue timely cultivation of trees for not less than 3 years
- After 3 years, area may be seeded to grass. Mow regularly, especially in the fall to discourage rodents
- Never burn the grass in a shelterbelt