



INCENTIVE PROJECT GUIDELINES

WOODLANDS CONSERVATION / ENHANCEMENT - OXFORD COUNTY

Cost-Share Rate:

- 50% (general)
- 70% for woodlands identified as significant in the Oxford Natural Heritage Study (ONHS)

Maximum Payment: **\$2,000**

Purpose:

- To conserve and enhance the terrestrial natural heritage resources in Oxford County

Eligibility:

- Private landowners throughout **Oxford County**
- Public lands throughout **Oxford County**

Eligible Projects:

- Woodland management plans
- Woodland marking and timber sale supervision
- Woodland expansions and connections
- Woodland clean up
- Roadside tree planting and maintenance
- Woodland technical advice
- Other

Project Details:**Woodland Management Plans:**

- 10-year woodland management plan
- Woodland management plans must be to Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP) standards and approved by a MFTIP plan approver
- *A Guide to Stewardship Planning for Natural Areas* can be used to develop the woodland management plan

Woodland Marking and Timber Sale Supervision:

- Must be provided by:
 1. A Registered Professional Forester in good standing with the Ontario Professional Foresters Association, or
 2. An Associate member in good standing of the Ontario Professional Foresters Association, or
 3. A fully certified Tree Marker
- All timber harvesting must be in compliance with Oxford County Woodlands Conservation By-Law No. 4489-2004
- Harvesting must be done under good forest management practices
- Woodland management plans are highly recommended
- An improvement cut must be carried out within six months of applying for the grant
- Application must be accompanied by legible map of area, harvesting prescription, and Notice of Intent

Woodland Expansions and Connections:

- Expanding existing woodlands or connecting woodlands through the planting of native species; minimum 1 ha (2.5 ac) area including existing woodland on the property
- A planting plan is required specifying species, planting density, location, site preparation and maintenance. To promote approval, the plan should be developed in conjunction with Conservation Authority staff or a private consultant.
- Species appropriate for specific native seed zone are required
- Planting of seedlings or direct seeding with locally collected seed eligible
- Minimum 15 metre planting width required
- Livestock must be excluded from planting sites
- Applicants will be required to sign a 15 year management agreement for planting projects

WOODLANDS CONSERVATION / ENHANCEMENT - OXFORD COUNTY - PAGE 2

Woodland Clean Up:

- Invasive species control
- Removal of debris, such as old wire, metal, glass, tires, vehicles, etc., from woodlots
- All material removed must be recycled or disposed of in a licensed landfill.

Roadside Tree Planting and Maintenance:

- Planting of native, salt-tolerant hardwood species
- All trees planted must be on private land; no trees will be allowed on the road allowance
- Maintenance items such as staking, rodent guards, weed control, and pruning
- Chemical weed control must be done by a pesticide applicator licensed by the Ministry of the Environment

Woodland Technical Advice:

- Site visits for woodland technical advice on issues such as growth and yield plots, insect and disease problems, invasive species control, tree planting/maintenance and woodland management

Eligible Costs:

- Fees for writing woodland management plans
- Trees for timber marking, timber sale supervision, Notice of Intent permit, Notice to Harvest sign
- Invasive species control measures
- Native trees, wildlife shrubs, grasses and wildflowers (seedlings and seed)
- Site preparation, planting, and maintenance costs obtained through a Conservation Authority or planting contractor
- Equipment and landfill tipping fees for woodland clean up

Ineligible Costs:

- Commercial stock, fruit trees or Christmas tree species that are commercially marketable in less than 15 years are not eligible