Living Snow Fence

Participating Organizations
USDA – Farm Service Agency
http://www.fsa.usda.gov/ia/
USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service http://www.ia.nrcs.usda.gov/
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
www.iowadnr.com
Iowa Department of Transportation
www.dot.state.ia.us
Pheasants Forever
www.iowapheasantsforever.org

CRP Continuous Sign-up
❖ New - Snow Catch Areas Eligible
❖ Save Money and Time
❖ Be Safe
❖ Attract Wildlife

The Iowa DNR recommends trees, shrubs and prairie seed grown in Iowa, because these plants are suitable for Iowa’s growing conditions. Plant materials can be purchased at local nurseries and seed dealers. Quality, affordable bare-root nursery stock is also available from the DNR State Forest Nursery. Call 800-865-2477 or check the DNR forestry Web site at www.iowatreepplaning.com.
Continuous Sign-up
Living Snow Fence

NEW Snow Catch Areas Eligible
For the first time, snow catch areas downwind of a living snow fence will be eligible for continuous CRP. These areas must be seeded to native grass species and can provide an added bonus for landowners interested in providing wildlife habitat, while reducing snow removal costs. Generally, these catch areas range from 75 to 100 feet wide or more depending on the design specifications.

Just as private landowners can save time and effort on snow removal with a properly placed living snow fence, the Iowa Department of Transportation can benefit when living snow fences are established on selected sections of state-maintained highways. Landowners along those sections have probably already had temporary snow fences placed in their crop fields.

Sign up at your county USDA-Farm Service Agency at any time. The USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) provides technical help on designing your snow fence and choosing plant materials. Contact a Department of Natural Resources (DNR) state forester for information about selecting trees and shrubs that will be hardy and adaptable for your soils and site conditions. Contact a DNR wildlife biologist for more information about native grass and flower species suitable for your site.

For more information
Contact your local USDA Farm Service Agency or check the FSA Web site at http://www.fsa.usda.gov/ia/.

Conservation Reserve Program

Purpose
- Protect against prevailing winds to manage snow and decrease snow removal costs
- Enhance public safety
- Establish wildlife habitat
- Control erosion

Payments
Cost-share
50 percent cost-share, with a 40 percent practice incentive payment for establishment costs

Rental Rate
Based on maximum soil rental rate established for the three predominant soils within the snow fence and snow catch area
From 10 to 15 years contract length

Additional Sign-up Bonus
$75/acre first year of the practice

Eligibility
- The north or west sides of lanes, roads, railroads and public facilities; and
- Land that was cropped four out of the six years from 1996 to 2001

More than 100 pheasant took shelter in this Boone County windbreak during heavy snowfalls.