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Natural Resources District

NEWS RELEASE

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Conservation Trees and Shrubs Available from Tri-Basin NRD

With spring just around the corner, now is the time to be thinking about planting conservation trees in a windbreak or shelterbelt on your property. Tri-Basin NRD sells conservation trees and offers tree planting services to residents of Gosper, Phelps and Kearney Counties.

If you are a rural landowner who wants to have a windbreak or shelterbelt planted, contact your county NRCS office or the NRD office at 1-877-995-6688 for help determining the type and number of trees and shrubs you need. An NRCS technician will make arrangements for the tree order and planting service and the NRD will plant the trees according to the plan. Tri-Basin NRD offers cost-share funds for tree plantings and plastic mulch installation.

You can also purchase trees and shrubs to plant yourself through Tri-Basin NRD. Orders must be in multiples of 25 per species. A complete list of trees available is available at the NRD office. Plastic mulch weed barrier may be purchased at the NRD office as well. This barrier not only eliminates weeds but also helps to preserve soil moisture.

Windbreaks and shelterbelts provide many benefits. Windbreaks planted along field boundaries reduce soil erosion by reducing wind velocity. Shelterbelts planted around farmsteads reduce heating costs in homes and shop buildings. Shelterbelts can protect livestock from blizzards and serve as "living snow fences." Trees and shrubs also provide food, shelter and nesting habitat for many species of birds and mammals.