

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay Vegetative Buffer Planting Contractor Bid

Spring 2025: Pennsylvania

The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay is seeking bids from planting contractors to establish new vegetative environmental buffers on 5 poultry farms in Pennsylvania during the spring 2025 planting season. The 5 sites are located in 3 Counties. Services sought include:

- Planting 975 bare-root seedlings during spring 2025 planting season (5 Sites), and 2186 1 gallon potted switchgrass plants (2 sites).
- Installation of non-perforated 4' tree shelters on all planted stems at all sites
- Installation of plastic weed matting on 3 sites where switchgrass will be planted, or where arborvitae will be planted.

The contractor shall be responsible for providing all equipment, materials, and supplies to complete the tree planting projects according to the planting specifications & contractor's responsibilities listed below. The contractor shall scalp away the turf at each tree seedling planting location, hand plant (dibble bar or hoedad only for bareroots) approximately 975 bare-root tree seedlings and 2186 1 gallon potted switchgrass, install approximately 4250 ft of weed matting, install approximately 975 four-foot (4') total tree shelters, with 1"x1" white oak stakes with reversible ties on 5 poultry farms between March and May, 2025. Trees and shrubs will be planted on 5 properties in 3 counties in Pennsylvania; exact site locations are available upon request. Contractor will follow Alliance biosecurity protocol at each planting site. Vehicle tires, equipment, and boots must be washed or disinfected with Lysol spray before each planting, and before visiting each farm location. Sign-in at the farm is required upon entering the site.

Minimum Qualifications of a Bidder

1. The Bidder will be a reputable contractor with a minimum of five (5) years of experience in planting bare-root tree seedlings, installing tree shelters with stakes, and possess current insurance.
2. The Bidder may be asked to provide three references that can verify qualifications above and copies of current insurance and license. A Bidder that does not meet the minimum qualifications will be rejected.

Planting Specifications and Contractor's Responsibilities

1. The contractor will provide all labor, planting stock, materials, and equipment to fulfill all aspects of the scope of work as outlined above. Species and quantities of tree seedlings, and grasses to be planted are included in the planting plans provided by the Alliance. The contractor agrees to follow the planting specifications provided in the planting plan for each property unless otherwise directed and approved by Alliance personnel.

2. The contractor shall scalp away turf at 5" x 5" at the spot of each tree seedling.
3. All tree seedlings will be hand planted (dibble bar or hoedad only) at the spacing grid specified in the tree planting plan for the site, as prepared by the Alliance, using accepted industry standards, methods, and equipment. All grass plugs will be hand planted, at the spacing grid specified in the planting plan for the site, with weed matting.
4. All seedlings and grass plugs when transported and/or stored on a planting site will always be protected with reflective seedling tarps or other appropriate means to prevent overheating and drying out of the plants. There will be no root pruning of the seedlings unless approved by the Alliance.
5. The contractor will dip all tree seedling roots in a water retention polymer such as Terra-Sorb, Soil Moist, or similar product, with approval of the Alliance, prior to planting. The contractor will provide the Terra- Sorb, Soil Moist, or similar product.
6. The contractor agrees to begin planting at a date mutually acceptable to both parties and to complete the planting projects between March 1, 2025 and May 1, 2025 (with exceptions made solely at the discretion of the Alliance). The planting shall not be done when excess water is standing on the site, or when the ground is frozen or extremely dry.
7. The contractor will plant seedlings at the depth the seedlings were grown, which is to be the root collar. Planting holes will be properly closed to ensure that all air pockets are removed.
8. The contractor will plant each tree seedling in such a manner that "J" and "U" roots will not occur, and each tree seedling will be firmed with mineral soil packed in and around the roots so the seedling cannot be pulled out of the ground by light tugs.
9. The contractor will provide 975 seedlings and 2186 switchgrass plugs (according to the requested species selection and quantities) 975 four-foot (4') tree shelters (including non-perforated plastic and biodegradable) and 1" x 1" x 4' white oak stakes, and reversible fastening ties. The contractor will also provide 4250 ft of 4 ft wide plastic weed matting.
10. The contractor will install the tree shelters around each designated tree seedling in a manner that prevents each seedling from being constricted by the shelter fastening ties. The straight edge of the tree shelters must be installed 2-5 centimeters into the soil. The flared edge is the top end of the tree shelter. All tree shelter fastening ties will be pulled tightly and firmly against each tree shelter stake.

11. The contractor will install each tree shelter stake in a straight and upright manner and to a minimum depth in the soil of ten to twelve inches (10"-12").
12. The contractor will properly install all tree shelters with stakes on each tree seedling on the same day that each seedling is planted.
13. The contractor will properly lay weed-matting at each site where switchgrass is being planted. The weedmatting must be laid according to the planting plan.
14. The contractor will repair, replace, or reimburse for damage to any property beyond ordinary wear and tear in the performance of the contract.
15. All work performed will be certified by the Alliance as to acceptability and adherence to planting plans and standards before the Alliance will compensate the contractor for any work performed.
16. The final number of planting sites, seedlings, grass plugs, tree shelters, and stakes may change prior to the commencement of this contract. The Alliance will notify the contractor of all changes as they occur. Any additions or subtractions to the list of planting sites will be adjusted according to per unit prices in the bid provided.
17. The contractor will adhere to Alliance protocol for biosecurity, including vehicle, equipment, and boot washes before each planting.
18. The contractor will perform all work in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local laws, and applicable grant terms as conditions. Funding for this work is made available by the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, the US Environmental Protection Agency, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

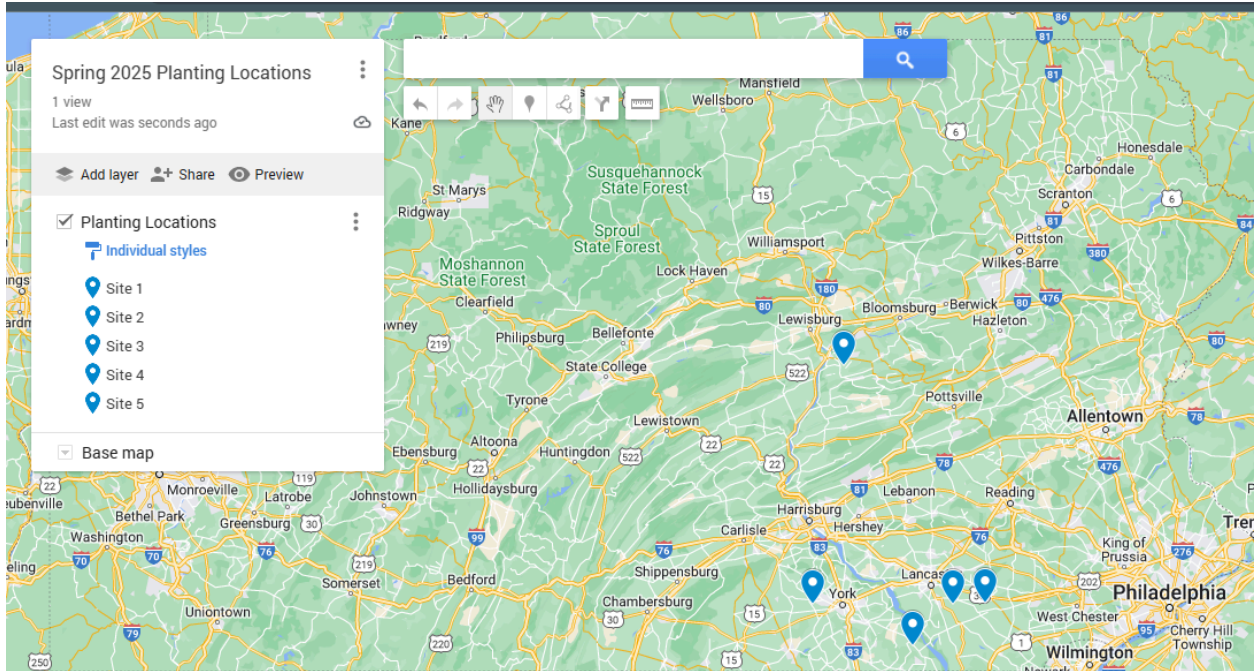
Biosecurity specifications:

The following must be completed prior and after each farm visit:

- Boots must be washed prior to entering the farm property, and free of all dirt and debris. Then boots must be disinfected with Lysol disinfectant or equivalent.
- Contractor must sign in at biosecurity check station (mailbox on farm driveway)
- Planting equipment that will be used must be washed and disinfected prior to use.
- Vehicle tires must be disinfected with Lysol disinfectant or equivalent prior to and following all farm visits.
- Boots must be cleaned and disinfected following each planting before getting back into your vehicle or removed and contained within your vehicle until fully disinfected.

Site Details:

| Site | Trees | Grasses | County |
|--------------------------|------------|-------------|----------------|
| Site 1: Eric Good | 165 | 0 | York |
| Site 2: Aaron Smucker | 300 | 1130 | Northumberland |
| Site 3: Tyler Bauman | 280 | 0 | York |
| Site 4: Lime Valley Farm | 80 | 1056 | Lancaster |
| Site 5: Mathew Beiler | 150 | 0 | Lancaster |
| TOTAL | 975 | 2186 | |



***Individual site maps and geodata will be provided upon request, to protect landowner privacy**

Site 1:

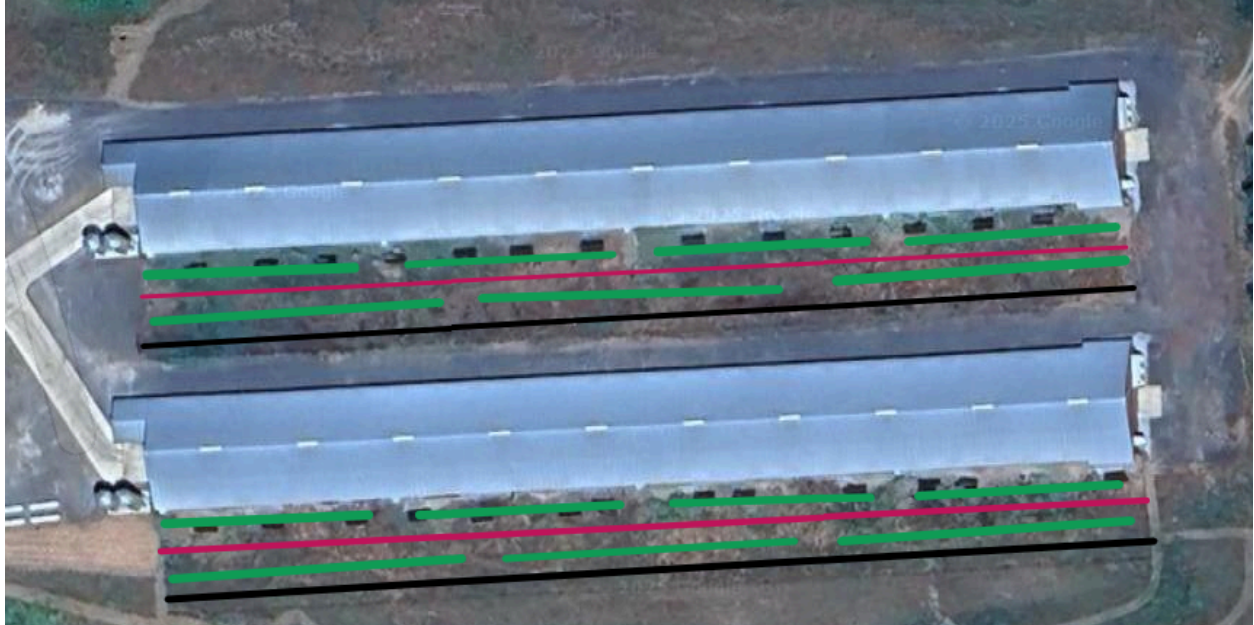


| Species | Amount | Spacing | Corresponding Row Color |
|---|--------|---------|-------------------------|
| Eastern Redbud (<i>Cercis canadensis</i>) | 65 | 6 ft | Yellow |
| White Fringe Tree (<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>) | 35 | 6 ft | Yellow |
| Blackhaw Viburnum (<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>) | 65 | 6 ft | Yellow |

Planting Description (Site 1):

Plant each species 6 feet apart, alternating species. Plant one Viburnum, one Redbud, one Fringe tree, one Viburnum etc.

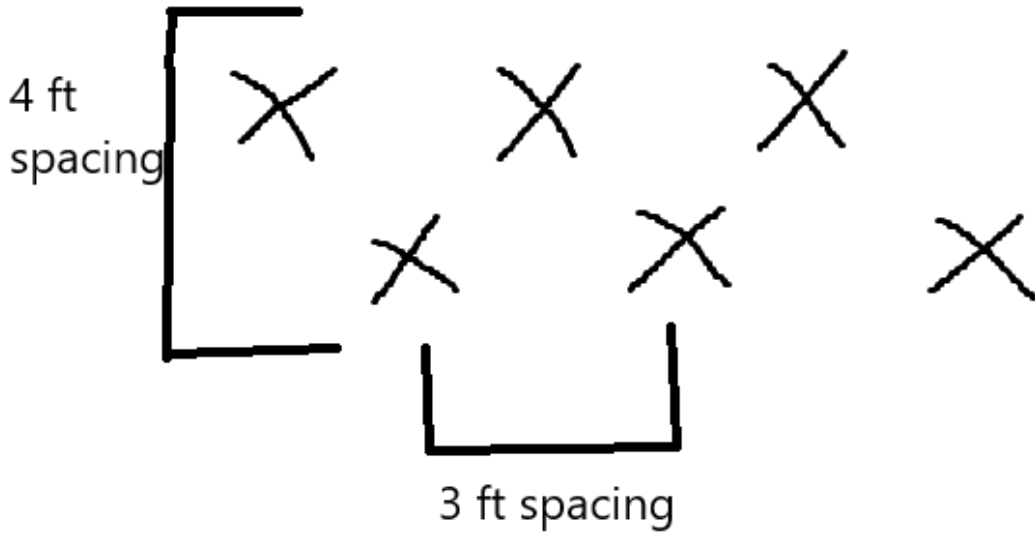
Site 2:



| Species | Amount | Spacing | Corresponding Row Color |
|---|---------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Blackhaw Viburnum (<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>) | 50 | 6 ft | Pink |
| Fragrant Sumac (<i>Rhus aromatica</i>) | 50 | 6ft | Pink |
| Ninebark (<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>) | 50 | 6ft | Pink |
| Staghorn Sumac (<i>Rhus typhina</i>) | 50 | 6ft | Black |
| Eastern Redbud (<i>Cercis canadensis</i>) | 50 | 6ft | Black |
| Blackhaw Viburnum (<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>) | 50 | 6ft | Black |
| Switchgrass (1 gallon pots) | 1130 | 3ft | Green |

Each pink or black row is approximately 450 ft, containing 50 trees each. Each row will have alternating species according to the species specified for each row above. Plant one fragrant sumac, one ninebark, one blackhaw viburnum, one fragrant sumac etc.

The Switchgrass will be planted in a row 3 ft apart, in the following orientation:



Each row of switchgrass will be planted within a 4ft roll of weed matting, with each potted switchgrass being planted 3 ft apart. One section of 4ft weed matting shall have two rows of switchgrass pots planted with each row filling the space of the last potted plant, as seen above.

Site 3:



| Species | Amount | Spacing | Corresponding Row Color |
|---|--------|---------|-------------------------|
| Eastern Redbud (<i>Cercis canadensis</i>) | 70 | 6 ft | Yellow, Brown |
| Fragrant Sumac (<i>Rhus aromatica</i>) | 70 | 6ft | Yellow, Brown |
| Ninebark (<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>) | 70 | 6ft | Yellow, Brown |
| Blackhaw Viburnum (<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>) | 70 | 6ft | Yellow, Brown |

Plant each species 6 feet apart, alternating species. Plant one Viburnum, one Redbud, one Fragrant Sumac, one Ninebark, one Viburnum etc. The yellow row has existing trees planted at 20 ft intervals. In the yellow row, trees will be planted around the existing trees in the same row, at 6 ft intervals from existing trees, and newly planted trees. When planting is finished, the yellow row will have a tree or shrub every ~6ft.

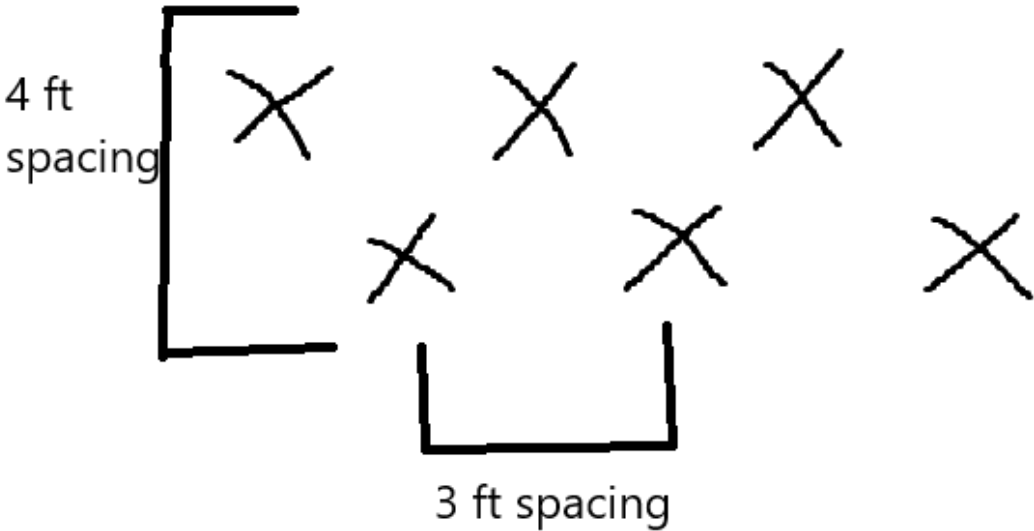
Site 4:



| Species | Amount | Spacing | Corresponding Row Color |
|---------------------------------------|--------|---------|-------------------------|
| Ninebark (Physocarpus opulifolius) | 80 | 10 ft | Brown |
| Switchgrass (1 gallon pots) | 1056 | 3 ft | Green |

The brown rows will be planted with ninebark at 10 ft spacing. The ninebark and switchgrass will be alternated in each row.

The green rows will be planted with two rows of switchgrass, following the orientation below. Each of the larger rows will be planted 4 ft apart. Each large row is composed of two smaller rows that are planted onto a 4 ft section of weed matting. In total, 2 rows of weed matting will be laid with two rows of grasses in each section of weed matting.



Site 5:



| Species | Amount | Spacing | Corresponding Row Color |
|--|--------|---------|-------------------------|
| Emerald Green Arborvitae (<i>Thuja occidentalis</i> 'Smaragd') | 150 | 3 | Yellow |

The yellow row will be planted with Emerald Green Arborvitae 3 ft apart, leaving space around the propane tanks. Weed matting will be placed prior to planting, and will run the course of row, skipping the propane tanks.

| Task | Price per unit | Total Bid Price |
|---|----------------|-----------------|
| Hand-plant 975 bare root tree seedlings in accordance to planting plan specifications | | |
| Hand-plant 2186, 1 gallon potted switchgrass plants in accordance to planting plan specifications | | |
| Lay 4250 ft of weed matting at sites where switchgrass will be planted, according to the planting plan | | |
| Provide all materials for and install 975 perforated tree shelters (4') with white oak stakes (4') and reversible ties | | |
| Provide 4250 ft of 4 ft wide weed matting for sites where switchgrass will be planted (sites 2 and 4), and where emerald green arborvitae will be planted (site 5) The contractor will provide the necessary ground staples required to securely lay the weed matting at each site. | | |
| Provide 2186 1 gallon potted switchgrass plugs in accordance with the provided planting plans | | |
| Provide 975 seedlings in accordance with the provided planting plans | | |
| TOTAL PLANTING BID PRICE | | |

RETURN BID SHEET (below) Electronically to: nkulp@allianceforthebay.org. All questions about this bid package should be made directly to Noah Kulp through email (see above) or by phone at 610-780-7488.

Bid Sheet - Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay Planting Contractor Bid

Return Bid Sheet By Friday, February 28, 2025.

Company Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Signature:

Name Printed:

Date: