

BLOWING SNOW CONTROL/ STANDING CORN ROWS

Farmer and landowner information



MnDOT's minimum payment is \$1,000 per acre. Actual compensation rates vary depending on the severity of MnDOT's operational costs beyond routine snow plowing and salt applications.

needs to be planted parallel to the road to serve as a fence. A typical standing corn row snow fence is one-quarter-mile long and 33 feet wide covering an average of 1 acre. The fence is set back 120 to 240 feet from the shoulder of the road to provide adequate space to store the snow.

For standing corn rows, or stacked bales, MnDOT enters into a short-term (one winter season) agreement with you, with payment made to you at the end of winter. Corn can be hand-picked, since MnDOT is paying for the corn stalks needed to catch the blowing snow. If a participating farmer chooses to harvest the corn in the spring they are allowed to keep the corn to use as they choose.

Help us keep blowing snow off your roads

Farmers' civic responsibility and leadership help keep winter roads open across Minnesota by leaving standing corn rows, hay bales or silage bags to protect selected state highways throughout the winter with our living snow fence program.

"**The Living Snow Fence program** is a great way for us to give back to our community and be an advocate for **safer driving conditions** in the winter," said Louise Kiecker, a farmer in Fairfax, Minn. "Our family and friends travel that road daily and they know that this stretch of the highway will be clear. I really see our participation in the program as a **public service**."

What is a STANDING CORN ROW?

During fall harvest farmers and landowners can leave a few rows of corn, or hay bales, along the roadside to use as temporary fencing to control blowing snow. These standing corn rows trap snow as it blows across fields, piling it up before it reaches a road, waterway, farmstead or community.

MnDOT pays farmers annually for standing corn rows to serve as snow fences adjacent to sections of highways that have a history of blowing and drifting snow. Corn

How do I enroll in MnDOT's living snow fence program?

1. Talk to your local MnDOT district snow fence coordinator (www.mndot.gov/environment/livingsnowfence/contacts.html). Your local coordinator will be able to verify that there is a blowing snow control program along the section of highway adjacent to the section of your property you would like to enroll in the program.

2. If your site is eligible and you want to enroll in the program, you will need to become a state vendor.

3. To get paid by MnDOT for a snow fence on your location, complete the online state vendor registration form. You can even sign-up for direct deposit through this system.



You can find this form online at: https://supplier.systems.state.mn.us/psc/fmssupap/SUPPLIER/ERP/c/NUI_FRAMEWORK.PT_LANDINGPAGE.GBL?&

4. Payment is made in April after the winter season of blowing snow control protection.

5. Each year you will receive a 1099 tax form which reports the amount received from MnDOT during the previous year.

For more information contact:

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For more information regarding
this program please visit:

www.mndot.gov/environment/livingsnowfence/

Local contact: