

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Conservation Practice Research Guide

Your group will become the class experts on your conservation practice and create a poster to explain the practice. **Your poster must include the following information and a labeled drawing or diagram to illustrate the practice.**

1. What is your group's conservation practice?
  - a. Describe this practice
  
2. When or why is it used? Are there particular situations it is good for (for example, on a hill or near a road or a body of water)?
  
3. What is the major environmental benefit of this practice?
  
4. What are some additional benefits of this practice?
  
5. List any new vocabulary associated with the practice:

## Conservation Practice Research Guide - *Windbreaks Example*

1. What is your group's conservation practice?

*Windbreaks*

- a. Describe the practice.

*Windbreaks are rows of trees or other tall plants that farmers plant in order to slow the wind speed over their fields.*

2. When or why is it used? Are there particular situations it is good for (for example, on a hill or near a road or a body of water)?

*Windbreaks are used in particularly windy areas. They are planted perpendicular to the direction of the strongest winds. They are useful in flat areas that don't have other things, such as buildings or trees, to stop the wind.*

3. What is the major environmental benefit of this practice?

*Windbreaks help slow the erosion of soil by wind. The wind hits the plants and is slowed down, so that it cannot pick up as many soil particles. This means that more topsoil remains on the field.*

4. What are some additional benefits of this practice?

- *Can provide wildlife habitat (for example, birds can live in the trees).*
- *Can provide more water for crops by decreasing evaporation due to wind.*
- *Can protect crops from wind damage.*

5. List any new vocabulary associated with the practice:

*Downwind: in the direction that the wind is blowing*

Sources:

<https://www.mda.state.mn.us/protecting/conservation/practices/fieldwindbreak.aspx>

[http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/nrcs143\\_026743.pdf](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/nrcs143_026743.pdf)

[http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb1046943.pdf](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb1046943.pdf)