

# Shelterbelt Rejuvenation

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# Key messages

- ▶ *Assess how many trees are dead and dying*
- ▶ *SAFETY consideration due to potential hazard risks*
- ▶ *What tree and shrub species are declining*
- ▶ *Space available for expansion or no new space available*
- ▶ *Understory and interplanting planting options*
- ▶ *Natural regeneration through root suckering or stump sprouting*
- ▶ *Natural regeneration through seeds*
- ▶ *Choosing appropriate tree and shrub species*
- ▶ *Plant trees properly - this the MOST IMPORTANT thing to do*
- ▶ *Water properly - each tree requires a different amount of water*
- ▶ *After new trees were established removed dead and decadent trees*

Range Rd 143

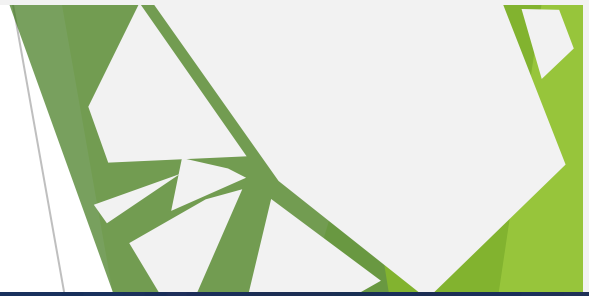




# Understory vegetation management



# Assessment



# Gaps



# Understory and interplanting planting





# Natural regeneration



# Seed production

**Ash** - 16 species in North America, prolific seed producer and readily established in disturbed areas with natural regeneration

**American Elm** - prolific seed producer when mature - site disturbance will encourage natural regeneration

**White spruce** - produce seeds every 4-7 years but in city more frequently due to stress conditions - soil disturbance is key for natural regeneration

**Pine** - produce seed every year but for natural regeneration needs fire or soil disturbance created by fire

**Aspen** - suckering is the most common

**Poplar clones** - from stump - coppicing

**Mature Colorado (blue) spruce** produce 79,500-132,500 seeds per bushel of cones

# Tree and shrub coppicing

- ▶ Almost any shrub species can be rejuvenated through coppicing.
- ▶ Cut back 6 to 8 inches above the ground to provide a good shrub row.
- ▶ Broadleaf trees that have shown good results are green ash, hybrid poplars, cottonwood, boxelder and the elms, especially Siberian elm.
- ▶ Tree seedlings grow wild from seed of existing species.



# Conclusion

- ▶ Take time and assess overall health of your older shelterbelt
- ▶ Consider safety and tree hazard
- ▶ Plan what options you may choose
- ▶ Under and interplanting is common option
- ▶ Encourage natural regeneration - seedling from own shelterbelts are BEST
- ▶ Natural regeneration through coppicing and suckering is great option
- ▶ Leave some dead and snag trees as they are great habitat for many birds and beneficial insects
- ▶ Don't rush to remove all dead trees