



**APPLICATION FOR
CONSERVATION SEEDLING PROGRAM
COST-SHARE ASSISTANCE**

For Office Use Only
Revised (8/25/26)
FY 2026-2027

Rec'd: _____

Applicant Name: _____

Applicant's Agent (if applicable): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone: _____
(City) (State) (Zip)
(Primary) (Secondary)

Email Address: _____

Project Location (Taos County Neighborhood): _____

Property is (✓): ☐ - Owned *(Must attach a copy of a recent property tax bill for the project location)*
☐ - Leased *(Must attach a copy of lease & recent property tax bill for the project location)*
☐ - Agent *(Must attach a copy of written/dated landowner approval & a recent property tax bill for the project location)*

Have You Participated in Taos SWCD Programs Before (✓)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, Please List Project Type(s): _____

Are you able to pick up trees at Taos SWCD between 9/29/26 and 10/2/26 (✓)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please note that any trees claimed but not picked up in this window will be distributed to other waitlist applicants.

Are you potentially interested in purchasing more trees than the current limit: 50 per applicant (✓)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

I recognize that the above information is true and correct and I am requesting Taos SWCD assistance. This project is needed to protect soil & water resources on the identified property and technical/cost-share assistance is needed to complete the project. I hereby certify that I have read and I understand Taos SWCD's FY 2026/27 Conservation Seedling Program Guidelines.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Taos Soil & Water Conservation District (Taos SWCD) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and, where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs). Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotope, etc.) should contact Taos SWCD at 575-751-0584. To file a complaint of discrimination, write to Taos SWCD, 220 Chamisa Road, Taos, NM 87571 or call 575-751-0584. Taos SWCD is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Taos Soil & Water Conservation District

FY 2026/27 Conservation Seedling Program Guidelines

- Planting stock is made available from New Mexico State Forestry's Conservation Seedling Program. **Purchased seedlings will be made available for pickup starting Tuesday September 29th, 2026 during Taos SWCD business hours (Mon-Fri, 8:30am to 3:30 pm). All trees must be picked up by Friday October 2nd, 2026.**
- Seedlings are provided in **multispecies bundles of ten trees** shown below, with similar watering requirements and preferred habitat. Landowners can purchase up to **5 BUNDLES MAXIMUM**. Bundles are **\$10.00 each**.
- All fall tree seedlings come in plastic cone-tainers (1.5 inch diameter x 8 inches tall). Species descriptions are provided on the following page. Planting instructions will be provided upon tree pickup.
- Tree stock is limited and bundles are allocated in the order in which applications are received. Due to demand and limited quantities of particular species, Taos SWCD will substitute bundles ordered within each category (eg, someone requesting a Wildlife Pollinator Mix 1 bundle, if it is sold out, will be given a Wildlife Pollinator Mix 2 bundle instead).

Bundles Desired	Dryland Mix 1	Bundles Desired	Dryland Mix 2
	2 Apache Plume		2 Apache Plume
	1 Piñon		2 Winterfat
	2 Firecracker Penstemon		2 Palmers Penstemon
	2 Fourwing Saltbush		2 Dusty Beardtongue
	2 Winterfat		2 Skunkbush Sumac
	1 Mountain Mahogany		

Bundles Desired	Wildlife Pollinator Mix 1	Bundles Desired	Wildlife Pollinator Mix 2
	2 Buffaloberry		1 Chokecherry
	1 Wax Currant		1 Western Sandcherry
	1 Golden Currant		2 Palmers Penstemon
	2 New Mexico Olive/Foresteria		2 Superb Penstemon
	2 Piñon		2 False Indigo Bush
	2 New Mexico Locust		2 New Mexico Olive/Foresteria

Bundles Desired	Fruiting Mix
	3 Chokecherry
	1 Golden Currant
	3 Western Sandcherry
	2 Skunkbush Sumac
	1 Wax Currant

TOTAL BUNDLES DESIRED (MAX 5)	PRICE	TOTAL COST (MAX \$50.00)
	x \$10.00 EA	

Scientific Name	Height	Growth Rate	Cold Hardiness	Water Needs	Alkalinity Tolerance	Elevation (ft)	Pest Problems	Sizes	Suggested Uses
Apache Plume									
<i>Fallugia paradoxa</i>	4 - 6 feet	Fast	Good-Excellent	Low	Moderate-High	5000-8000	None serious	Small	Windbreaks, erosion control, wildlife plantings
This native shrub occurs along the sides of dry washes and hillsides. The rose-like white flowers are showy in the early summer with feathery clusters of plume-like fruit in the fall and winter. Provides nesting sites and material for birds. It has high calcium carbonate tolerance and low salinity tolerance. The optimum soil pH is 7.0 to 8.0. It is shade intolerant. Hardiness zones are 3 through 10 below 8000 feet in elevation. The width is between 4 and 6 feet.									
Buffaloberry									
<i>Shepherdia argentea</i>	12 feet	Slow-Moderate	Good-Excellent	Low-Moderate	High	4500-7000	None serious	—	Wildlife plantings, jellies and jams, windbreaks, erosion control
This native species is found along the banks of streams or on eroded dry hillsides in northwestern New Mexico. The plant is highly important for mule deer browse and cover for nesting birds. It is a good late winter source of food for birds. The tart red fruit of this plant is used for jellies and jams. Buffaloberry needs both male and female plants to produce fruit. It has high calcium carbonate and salinity tolerance. It has intermediate shade tolerance. Optimum soil pH is 5.3-8.0. Hardiness zones 3 through 6 below 7000 feet. The width is 10 to 12 feet.									
Chokecherry									
<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	6-20 feet	Moderate-Fast	Excellent	Moderate-High	Low	5500-9500	Borers, pear slugs, tent caterpillar	Small	Windbreaks, riparian restoration, wildlife plantings
A native shrub or small tree that forms dense barriers. It prefers deep and sandy loam soils. It is an important species for wildlife as bear, deer, and other animals use it for food. It is a species that minimizes stream bank erosion. Its fruit is widely used in jellies and jams. Chokecherry is self-pollinating. It has medium calcium carbonate and salinity tolerance. The optimum soil pH is 5.2 to 8.4. It has intermediate shade tolerance. Hardiness zones are 2 through 7 at elevations between 5500 and 9500 feet. The crown width is between 10 and 20 feet.									
Dusty Beardtongue									
<i>Penstemon comarrhenus</i>	1-3 feet	Moderate	Good-Excellent	Low	Low-Moderate	5500-9000	None	Small	Attracts hummingbirds, bees, and butterflies
It is native to the Four Corners area of New Mexico. Requires rocky, sandy, or gravelly well-drained soil. Has very low water requirements and is drought tolerant once established. It grows in open pinon-juniper woodlands, ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir and aspen forests. Grows in both full sun and full shade. Flowers in May, June and July. Tolerates weakly acidic to weakly alkaline soil pH as long as soil is well-drained.									

False Indigo Bush									
<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>	6-10 feet	Moderate	Good-Excellent	Moderate	Moderate	3000-7000	Insect gall	Small	Erosion control, wildlife plantings
False indigo bush is a native shrub that grows in dense stands along streambanks, irrigation ditches, irrigated pastures, and the edges of woodlands. It has purple spire-like flowers that bloom from May to July. The nectar from the flowers attracts birds and butterflies. The leaves are pinnately compound with 11 to 15 leaflets per stem. The average width of the plant is 5 feet. It has medium calcium carbonate tolerance and low salinity tolerance. The optimum soil pH is 5.0 to 8.5. Hardiness zones are 4 to 9 below 7000 feet in elevation. It is shade intolerant.									

Firecracker Penstemon									
<i>Penstemon eatonii</i>	Up to 3 feet	Slow	Excellent	Low	Moderate	3000-11000	None serious	Small	Erosion control, reclamation, wildlife forage
Native plant that has bright red flowers that bloom May through August, is adaptable to various soil types. It provides forage for deer, antelope and birds. It has intermediate shade tolerance, has high calcium carbonate tolerance, and no salinity tolerance. Hardiness zones are 4 through 9. It is a pollinator for native bees.									

Four-Wing Saltbush									
<i>Atriplex canescens</i>	4-6 feet	Fast	Good	Low	High	3000-8000	No major pests	Small	Windbreaks, wildlife plantings, erosion control, reclamation
This native shrub grows across a wide variety of soils including saline soils and is highly prized plant by the Navajos as forage for their cattle, sheep, and goats; especially in early spring when other forage is scarce. It is also an excellent wildlife species. It has high calcium carbonate tolerance and high salinity tolerance. Optimum soil pH is 6.5 to 9.5. It is shade intolerant. Hardiness zones are 4 through 9 up to 8000 feet in elevation. The width is between 4 and 8 feet.									

Golden Currant									
<i>Ribes aureum</i>	4-6 feet	Fast	Good	Low	Low	3000-9000	Leaf rust fungus, White Pine blister rust alternate host	Small	Windbreaks, revegetation, erosion control, wildlife plantings
A native to New Mexico in the spring the golden currant richly deserves its name - golden yellow clusters of long, trumpet-shaped, spicy fragrant flowers, adorn the shrub in abundance. The edible fruit is made into jellies and jams, and delicious pies. Golden currant is self-pollinating. It has high calcium carbonate tolerance and no salinity tolerance. Optimum soil pH is 6.0 to 8.0. Hardiness zones are 5 through 8 at elevations between 3000 and 9000 feet. Its shade tolerance is intermediate. The width is between 3 and 6 feet.									

Mountain Mahogany									
<i>Cercocarpus montanus</i>	15 feet	Moderate	Good-Excellent	Moderate	Moderate	4500-8000	No serious pests	Small	Wildlife habitat, erosion control
Mountain Mahogany is beautiful in late summer and fall, when the white tails of the fruit look like a threaded needle or a narrow delicate feather. It is a native shrub found on the limestone soils of the rolling plains and northern Trans-Pecos on rocky uplands. The leaves and twigs are browsed by elk and deer. It is an excellent species for reclamation of disturbed areas. It has high calcium carbonate tolerance and no salinity tolerance. The optimum soil pH is 6.0 to 8.0. It has intermediate shade tolerance. Hardiness zones are 5 through 10 between 4500 and 8000 feet. The width is between 8 and 15 feet.									

New Mexico Forestiera									
<i>Forestiera neomexicana</i>	8-10 feet	Moderate	Good	Low	Moderate	4000-7500	No serious pests	Small	Windbreaks, wildlife plantings, erosion control
Also called NM Olive or Privet, this native shrub has a broad range in New Mexico. It is widely used by birds due to the small black olive-shaped fruit it produces. It forms a dense thicket or small tree and is excellent for controlling erosion. It has high calcium carbonate tolerance and medium salinity tolerance. Optimum soil pH is 7.0 to 8.5. It is shade intolerant. Hardiness zones are 4 through 9 at elevations below 7500 feet. The width is between 8 and 12 feet.									

New Mexico Locust									
<i>Robinia neomexicana</i>	15-25 feet	Fast	Good-Excellent	Moderate	Moderate-High	4500-8500	Locust borer	Small	Windbreaks, reclamation, wildlife plantings, erosion control
This is a native tree especially useful for erosion control due to its rapid growth and thicket forming tendencies. The legumes incorporate nitrogen into the soil improving the quality of the soil. It produces showy purple flowers in the spring. It has high calcium carbonate tolerance and low salinity tolerance. Optimum soil pH is 7.0 to 8.5. It is shade intolerant. Hardiness zones are 5 through 9 at elevations between 4500 and 8500 feet. The average crown width is 15 feet.									

Palmer's Penstemon									
<i>Penstemon palmeri</i>	Up to 5 feet	Moderate	Excellent	Low	Low	2600-8200	None	Small	Wildlife plantings, erosion control

Scientific Name	Height	Growth Rate	Cold Hardiness	Water Needs	Alkalinity Tolerance	Elevation (ft)	Pest Problems	Sizes	Suggested Uses
Native to New Mexico. It is a perennial herb to slightly wood subshrub. Has fleshy leaves and has white to pink flowers that are fragrant. It is found in dry washes, grasslands, pinon-juniper and ponderosa pine communities. It is very drought and heat tolerant. It is shade intolerant, pH tolerance is 6.0 to 7.9, saline intolerant and prefers precipitation between 6 and 14 inches per year. Hardiness zones are 4 through 9 at elevations below 8200 feet. Adapted to coarse and medium textured, well-drained soils.									

Piñon

<i>Pinus edulis</i>	Up to 40 feet	Slow	Good-Excellent	Low	Moderate-High	3500-8500	Ips bark beetle, piñon needle scale, twig beetle, pitch moth	Small	Windbreaks, reforestation, Christmas trees
The New Mexico state tree is an aromatic pine which grows across a wide variety of soils and does well under cultivation. It is popular for the edible nuts it produces. Under most conditions it is self-pollinating. It has high value for upland game and song birds. It is very drought tolerant, but slow growing. Has low calcium carbonate tolerance and medium salinity tolerance. Hardiness zones are 6 through 8. Optimum soil pH is 6.5 to 8.5. The crown width is between 20 and 30 feet.									

Sand Cherry

<i>Prunus besseyi</i>	4 feet	Fast	Good-Excellent	Low	Moderate	3000-8000	Aphids	Small	Wildlife plantings, erosion control
Sand Cherry is a small fast growing shrub readily used by song birds. It produces clusters of white flowers in the spring followed by sweet black cherries nearly 3/4" in diameter. Sand cherry requires cross-pollination to produce fruit. It has high calcium carbonate tolerance and low salinity tolerance. The optimum soil pH is 5.3 to 7.5. It is shade intolerant. Hardiness zones are 3 through 8 at elevations between 3000 and 8000 feet. The width is between 3 and 6 feet.									

Skunkbush Sumac

<i>Rhus trilobata</i>	4-6 feet	Moderate	Excellent	Low	Moderate-High	4500-8000	No serious pests	Small	Windbreaks, wildlife plantings, erosion control
Skunkbush sumac is a deciduous, multi-branched and spreading shrub. It occurs along stream banks and forest openings but is most common and abundant on dry, rocky slopes throughout Arizona and New Mexico at elevations from 3500 to 8000 feet. This shrub is very winter hardy and tolerant of drought and high alkali soils. The fruits are red-orange and the flowers are yellowish and conspicuously in clusters. Besides having brilliant orange-red fall colors it is an important fall and winter food for songbirds and emergency food for game birds. This species is also an important browse species for mule deer. Clusters of small yellow flowers bloom in late May and produce a small red edible fruit. It has low calcium carbonate tolerance and no salinity tolerance. Optimum soil pH is 6.5 to 8.2. It has intermediate shade tolerance. Hardiness zones are 4 through 8 at elevations between 4500 and 8000 feet. The width is between 6 and 8 feet.									

Superb Penstemon

<i>Penstemon superbus</i>	2 feet	Moderate	Good-Excellent	Low	Moderate	3500-5500	None known	Small	Pollinator for native bees
Native to extreme southwestern New Mexico and southern Arizona. Grows in sandy or gravelly soils in canyons and washes. Has coral-colored blooms in April and May. Is a pollinator for native bees. Hardy in USDA hardiness zones 6-9.									

Wax Currant

<i>Ribes cereum</i>	4-6 feet	Slow-Moderate	Good-Excellent	Low	Moderate	5000-13000	None serious	Small	Wildlife habitat, erosion control
This attractive fragrant native shrub produces pink flowers in the spring and red fruit in the late summer. This plant is abundant over rocky slopes and in dry and open woods. It does well in areas of limited precipitation. It has high calcium carbonate tolerance and no salinity tolerance. The optimum soil pH is 6.5-7.5. It is shade intolerant. Hardiness zones are 5 through 8 at elevations above 5000 feet. The width is between 3 and 5 feet.									

Winterfat

<i>Ceratoides lanata</i>	3-4 feet	Fast	Good-Excellent	Low	Moderate-High	3000-8000	No major pests	Small	Erosion control, range improvement, wildlife plantings
Winterfat is a hardy, native half-shrub with a wide range throughout New Mexico. It grows on dry, well-drained soils, 3000 - 8000 feet in elevation, and can tolerate saline or alkaline soils. It is superior winter forage for livestock and used extensively by wildlife. The seed heads in the fall give the plant a pleasing silvery appearance. The long white fuzzy plumes give it another name: "Lambs Tail". It has high calcium carbonate and salinity tolerance. The optimum soil pH is 6.6 to 8.5. It is shade intolerant. Hardiness zones are 3 through 8 at elevations lower than 8000 feet. The average width is 3 feet.									