

# MARQUETTE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

## Snow Fence Policy

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### **Purpose of Policy:**

This policy is to provide for consistency in the prevention of snow drifting on County Trunk Highways. It has been prepared for the following reasons:

- Identifying types of snow fence to be installed and methodology for that installation.
- Providing alternative and more cost efficient means of installing snow fence.
- Providing for a compensation policy for various snow fence installations.

### **1. Methods/Types of Snow Fence**

- a. Installation of traditional snow fence - As the title implies this is the yearly installation of traditional snow fence. This snow fence will be installed with landowner permission, and installed in coordination with the use of the property it is installed on. This snow fence will be taken down in the spring at such time as to not interfere with the landowners use plans.
- b. Installation of snow windrows – This type of snow fence would be installed with the land owner's permission (letters mailed) in the fields along County Highways by using graders, front end loaders to create a windrow of snow for the current winter season.
- c. Installation of living snow fence - When and wherever possible the installation of living snow fence shall be considered. For the purpose of this policy living snow fence will be defined as trees and large bushes planted in such a manner as to serve as snow fence.
- d. Corn stubble - When the landowner is willing to cooperate in an area that is needed for snow fencing, tall corn stubble measuring approx....18 inches or taller in height shall be left standing from harvest until April 1<sup>st</sup> the following year. This stubble shall cover all of that field area which was planted in corn. No cultivation of this stubble may take place between harvest and April 1<sup>st</sup> of the following year.

## **2. Compensation Determination**

- a. Installation of traditional snow fence - There shall be no landowner compensation for allowing the installation of traditional snow fence.
- b. Installation of living snow fence – There shall be no landowner compensated for the installation of living snow fence as long as the installation is within the highway right of way.
- c. Corn stubble - For corn stubble left standing, compensation shall be \$250.00 per 40 acres. In the event of the landowner cultivating or otherwise removing the corn stubble between harvest and April 1<sup>st</sup> the following year, no payment shall be made. After April 1<sup>st</sup> the landowner may dispose of the corn stubble in whatever manner he/she sees fit.

Adopted by the Marquette County Highway Committee this 25<sup>th</sup> day of October , 2016