

# Tree Planter Policy

Policy 6.14

Effective March 8, 2016

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The purpose of the tree planter is to encourage landowners to plant trees for soil conservation and wildlife habitat in Muskingum County. The following policy has been adopted by the Muskingum Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors to effectively carry out this program:

The cost of renting the planter is \$50.00 per day with a minimum charge of \$75.00. A deposit of \$25.00 is required when the agreement is signed for use of the planter with the balance due upon completion of planting. **The balance is due within thirty (30) days of planting completion, and shall be based on the number of days planter is kept, less the deposit. After 30 days, the unpaid balance shall bear interest at the rate of 10% per annum.**

**Effective October 1, 2004, the Lessee will be required to show proof of liability insurance with an official Certificate of Insurance. Failure to provide the Certificate of Insurance will terminate any contract for use of the drill.**

The unauthorized late return of the tree planter will result in a one hundred dollar (\$100.00) per day late charge. If the Lessee keeps the tree planter in excess of two days over the return date (without authorization), then that Lessee cannot use any of the district rental equipment for one calendar year following the date of the late return. To receive authorization for the late return of the tree planter, the Lessee must contact the District staff. The staff, if contacted, can make the decision regarding the extension of the return date for bad weather, breakdowns, etc. The call and their decision will be documented on the office copy of the contract. It is suggested that the Lessee also make note of the call and decision on his/her copy of the contract.

The Lessee will be responsible for damages to the tree planter while in their possession. The payment for such damages shall be made to the Muskingum Soil and Water Conservation District.

A District representative will assist the first-time user in making all adjustments. The repeat user shall make the necessary adjustments unless the service of a technician is requested to assist in making the adjustments. Technical assistance will only be provided by Muskingum SWCD staff within the boundaries of Muskingum County.

The tree planter will be transported only during daylight hours and in accordance with the Ohio Motor Vehicle Laws and Ohio Revised Code pertaining to transportation of farm equipment. Anyone towing the equipment must have a Reese Hitch or comparable hitch with an 8000 lb. or greater towing weight capacity. **The Lessee is responsible for transportation of the tree planter from the point of pickup to the landowner's property and back to the original point of pickup. The pickup point is the District Office unless otherwise specified by the District Office.** The District may deliver and pick up the tree planter at its discretion. **If the tree planter is being transported outside Muskingum County, it must be hauled on a trailer and not towed.**

Lessee must have a vehicle equipped with an accessory outlet near the hitch in order to transport the tree planter.

The tree planter will be cleaned after use by the Lessee. A cleanup fee of \$25.00 will be paid at the time of application. Upon return of the cleaned tree planter, \$25.00 will be refunded or credited toward the rental charge. Any refunds will be paid by District Fund check after approval by the MSWCD Board of Supervisors. **If the tree planter is not returned clean, the Lessee will be charged an additional \$75 , for a total cleanup fee of \$100.00.**

Preventive maintenance will be completed by the District staff or a qualified dealer.