

# implementing ARRI

## ...removing barriers

### Cultural Barriers

**Land value:**

Planting high-value, hardwood tree species increases land value and reduces forest fragmentation. Planting harvestable forests for a cash crop will have a positive impact on employment opportunities, the timber industry, and the local economies in Appalachia.

**Appearance of young forests:**

The rough appearance of a young forest favors diversity and provides habitat to many plants and animals, even during the first year after reclamation. After six or seven years, a young forest will begin to mature.



### Technical Barriers

**Compaction:**

Compacted surface materials do not support proper tree growth. Loose material allows rain to seep into the ground and roots to grow. Research has proven that erosion, sedimentation, and downstream flooding can be minimized by reduced compaction.

**Groundcover:**

Dense herbaceous groundcovers used to control erosion compete with newly planted trees and tree seedlings for soil nutrients, water, and sunlight. These groundcovers also provide habitat for rodents and other animals that damage tree seedlings and young trees.

### Regulatory Barriers

**Regulations and bond release:**

The ARRI Core Team has determined that current State and Federal regulations support forestry as a postmining land use. When mine operators use the tree-planting technique advocated by ARRI, called the Forestry Reclamation Approach, performance bonds are not unnecessarily delayed.

