



Connecticut Forest Resource Fact Sheet

Fiscal Year 2012

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Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

Cooperative Fire Protection
 Cooperative Forestry
 Forest Health Management
 Forest Legacy
Total

FY 2011
Final
 432,888
 320,200
 152,400
 37,000
942,488

This funding is for all entities within the state, not just the State Forester's office.

Key Issues

- The growing threat to forest health and to a sustainable forest based economy from exotic and invasive species
- Maintaining forest ecosystem health and biodiversity in the face of fragmentation, parcelization, and urbanization fueled by real estate prices and inter-generational transfers
- Insufficient resources for effective management of publicly-owned forests and other lands held for the public good
- Limited incentives and personnel to motivate and educate landowners and forest managers in forest stewardship for multiple benefits

Forest Facts and Accomplishments

Selected Facts

Population	3,574,097
Acres of Forest Land	1,687,319
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	1,383,000
Number of NIPF Landowners	108,000
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	2,390,000
Number of Rural Fire Departments	276
Cities and Towns	29
Forest Based Employment	10,050
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	6
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	1,627,000

Selected FY 2011 Accomplishments

Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance (Each)	1,531
Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	7,460
Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	6,639
Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted (Each)	50
State Fire Communities Assisted (Each)	148
Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	0
Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions (Acres)	0
Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	162
Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	3,537,390
Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance (Hours)	13,475

Program Highlights:

Cooperative Fire Protection

The state used State Fire Assistance funds to purchase wildland fire and personal protective equipment. They trained 2,500 state and local firefighters in basic wildfire skills. Smokey Bear visited more than 25,000 people at 120 events. Volunteer Fire Assistance grants helped 38 fire departments purchase equipment for water handling, foam, and communications. \$17,000 in equipment was acquired through the DOD Firefighter Property Program.

Forest Health Protection

Storms caused extensive damage to the state's forests in 2011. Hurricane Irene struck in August, damaging trees and forests along the coast and across the Connecticut River watershed. A Halloween Nor'easter caused significant damage, especially in the northeastern part of the State. The most damaging forest pests included the orange-striped oakworm, hemlock woolly adelgid, and elongate hemlock scale. Specialists continued to monitor for several damaging pests, including the Asian longhorned beetle, emerald ash borer, light brown apple moth, Sirex wood wasp, and Phytophthora ramorum, with no detections.

Forest Legacy

The state's Forest Legacy Program was reviewed. The conclusion? Connecticut's Program is running smoothly.

Landowner Assistance

The Division of Forestry strengthened its partnership with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and UCONN Cooperative Extension Forestry to boost forest stewardship planning and stewardship activities. In the lower Connecticut River valley, an "all-lands," large scale project is underway, supported by USFS grant funds with partners including Service Foresters, State Lands Management, Extension Forestry and the regional planning agency. The CT Agricultural Experiment Station and Extension held four workshops on controlling invasive shrubs. The Program supports and works with the CT Tree Farm Committee, the Connecticut Forest and Park Association, the CT Coverts Project, and other programs and organizations.

Urban and Community Forestry

The State has seen growing interest in urban tree inventories and other tree assessment methods. During the past year, Torrington and East Lyme completed street tree inventories for each of their town centers, while West Haven and Milford have begun to survey randomly selected parts of town; each has a goal to inventory 100% of their municipality. All of these efforts had substantial involvement by volunteers and town personnel and a commitment of town resources. The inventories and assessments are timely due to serious concerns about the non-native insects, Emerald ash borer and Asian longhorned beetle; both have been found near the state's borders.



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