



# Massachusetts 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**  
 979,700  
 1,000,746  
 584,672  
 5,036,665  
**7,601,783**

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

## Key Issues

- Controlling Asian longhorned Beetle Infestation.
- Connecting people to forest sustainability.
- Changing land use, including fragmentation.
- Education and interdisciplinary approach to forest health and invasive species.
- Providing private landowner and urban community forestry services.

## Forest Facts and Accomplishments

### Selected Facts

Population	6,547,629
Acres of Forest Land	3,014,655
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	2,179,000
Number of NIPF Landowners	293,000
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	3,200,000
Number of Rural Fire Departments	220
Cities and Towns	53
Forest Based Employment	20,647
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	6
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	3,750,000

### Selected FY 2011 Accomplishments

Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance (Each)	4,980
Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	25,690
Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	10,631
Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted (Each)	52
State Fire Communities Assisted (Each)	105
Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	0
Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions (Acres)	459
Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	163
Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	4,373,180
Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance (Hours)	19,500

## Program Highlights:

### Cooperative Fire Protection

The state equipped response vehicles and updated its communications system. Staff delivered 17 prevention programs and trained staff from 460 municipal, state and partnership organizations. Fifty-two communities received wildland fire equipment and training. Federal Excess Personal Property program acquisitions totaled \$365,787, while acquisitions topped \$4.3 million under the DoD Fire Fighter Property program. 1,525 acres were treated with prescribed fire to reduce hazardous fuels near high risk communities.

### Forest Health Protection

A powerful tornado damaged trees on 11,000 acres from Springfield to Sturbridge. The Forest Health Program leads State agencies in the battle against Asian longhorned beetle in Worcester County and Boston. The quarantine area covers 110 square miles. Winter moth defoliated 89,000 acres in eastern Mass and on the North and South Shores, Cape Cod, and Martha's Vineyard. Hemlock woolly adelgid populations have dropped, while more trees are stressed by elongate hemlock scale. Emerald ash borer monitoring produced no finds.

### Forest Legacy

Massachusetts continued to protect important lands, completing seven Forest Legacy projects totaling 436 acres. The properties will safeguard rolling forested hills and recreation trails.

### Landowner Assistance

Using a Redesign grant, the Service Forestry program added a Forester to encourage a "buy local wood products" message in the Pioneer Valley region. Events, lectures, and local wood-themed human interest stories brought attention to potential economic and social benefits of local wood production. With MA DCR Forest Stewardship Program funds (part of the Commonwealth's Working Forest Initiative), the University of MA Dartmouth created a Forest Stewardship Plan to realize their vision for a "Living Classroom" to demonstrate the role of forests in a sustainable future.

### Urban and Community Forestry

Staff is working with USDA to administer a reforestation program funded by the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act. Besides providing training and jobs, 15,000 trees will be planted in the Asian longhorned beetle quarantine zone by May 2012. The June 2011 tornado heavily damaged ten communities. DCR assisted quickly with cleanup and damage assessment. DCR staff and the US Forest Service provided images for further damage assessment and planning. The two agencies and the Mass Tree Wardens and Foresters Association reassessed Springfield trees for remaining hazards and located more than 2,000 tree planting sites in the damage area. DCR began distributing reforestation funds.

### Wood Education and Resource Center

MA Bureau of Forestry recently completed a project to promote the sustainable use of woody biomass for energy. For more information: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/doer/renewables/biomass/woody-biomass-energy.pdf>. A wood energy feasibility study is planned for Winchendon Academy in Winchendon, MA.



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