



# Minnesota 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**  
 1,424,845  
 874,700  
 235,000  
 79,000  
**2,613,545**

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

## Key Issues

- Retaining a competitive primary forest products industry, especially through the current economic recession.
- Improving forest health, productivity, and resiliency to help meet future forest resources demand, and to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change, invasive species, and to maintain water quality and quantity.
- Adapting forest management practices and systems to emerging markets for woody biomass and carbon credits.
- Minimizing the breakup of former industrial forests into small parcels that are sold to nonindustrial owners and converted to non-timber uses.
- Cooperating across agencies and among landowners to address forest management issues and wildfire suppression demands in the face of escalating costs and decreased budgets.

## Forest Facts and Accomplishments

### Selected Facts

Population	5,303,925
Acres of Forest Land	17,290,956
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	6,467,000
Number of NIPF Landowners	202,000
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	45,037,000
Number of Rural Fire Departments	748
Cities and Towns	854
Forest Based Employment	39,867
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	4
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	39,000,000

### Selected FY 2011 Accomplishments

Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance (Each)	5,266
Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	117,990
Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	33,981
Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted (Each)	220
State Fire Communities Assisted (Each)	300
Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	83,249
Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions (Acres)	77,553
Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	166
Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	3,348,837
Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance (Hours)	38,174

## Program Highlights:

### Cooperative Fire Protection

The National Fire Plan aided in reducing hazardous fuels on 200 acres near high-risk communities. The state trained 2,150 firefighters, while 196 volunteer fire departments received grants for equipment and training. Fire departments were loaned \$14,254 in fire equipment through the Federal Excess Personal Property Program and received title to \$3.6 million in acquisitions under the DoD Fire Fighter Property Program. The state improved its ability to predict fire behavior by upgrading data collection devices for weather monitoring.

### Forest Health Protection

Minnesota is responding to gypsy moth and emerald ash borer (EAB), both foreign pests. The state's first EAB site was in the Twin Cities metro area in 2009. Three new sites were discovered in 2011. Many of the infested trees are being processed for bio-fuel. Preparedness and response plans will hopefully slow the spread of EAB so scientists can develop better management techniques. Minnesota treated about 100,000 acres under the Gypsy Moth Slow the Spread Program, which has reduced the rate of spread by at least 60%. Burr oak blight was found in 14 new counties in 2011.

### Forest Legacy

Minnesota completed a 79,168-acre project. Protected forests are a key provider of timber to the paper mill in International Falls and provide public recreational access for hunting, fishing, snowmobiling and other uses.

### Landowner Assistance

The Program works closely with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, securing up to \$1 million for forestry practices under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) for fiscal years 2012 and 2013. The Program is also promoting landscape stewardship in cooperation with the Minnesota Forest Resource Council and their six regional landscape committees. The State's financial commitment to private forest management has dropped by 75% due to budget shortfalls, making federal funding crucial to the program.

### Urban and Community Forestry

The Urban and Community Forestry Program continues to leverage resources to provide technical and financial assistance to communities to prepare for and respond to emerald ash borer. One outreach project used volunteers trained under the Tree Care Advisor program to visit communities, give presentations about emerald ash borer, and answer questions about resources available to them.

### Wood Education and Resource Center (WERC)

The University of Minnesota's Natural Resources Research Institute will continue its work on thermally-modified hardwoods. A grant will provide an industry forum to identify key components for a technical standard for the fledgling North American thermally-modified wood industry.



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