

# Missouri Forest Resource Fact Sheet

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#### **Key Issues**

- · Lack of public understanding about forests and the benefits they provide, and the need for active forest management to enhance quality of life.
- Enhanced technical assistance, incentives, communication and networking to increase private landowner participation in sustainable forest management.
- Sustainable forest management led by improved industry operations and a positive public image.
- The increasing threat to forest health and diversity from exotic and invasive species.
- User conflicts on public forestland and less support for active management of public forestland.
- Enhanced forest product markets including markets for ecosystem services.

Lisa Allen, State Forester

## **Forest Facts and Accomplishments**

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

Selected Facts		Selected FY 2011 Accomplishments	
Population	5,988,927	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance	3,654
Acres of Forest Land	15,493,753	(Each)	
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	12,234,000	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	19,584
Number of NIPF Landowners	359,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or	1,700
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	Revised Stewardship Plans	
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	42,350,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted (Each)	160
Number of Rural Fire Departments	860	State Fire Communities Assisted (Each)	237
Cities and Towns	959	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	0
Forest Based Employment	27,117	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions (Acres)	0
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	5	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	121
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	16,300,000	(Each)	121
, , ,		Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry	2 022 442
		Program Assistance (Each)	2,922,413
		Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance (Hours)	30,894

### **Program Highlights:**

#### Cooperative Fire Protection

National Fire Plan funds aided in hazardous fuels reduction on 10,000 acres near high-risk communities. 840 firefighters received wildfire-related training and 160 volunteer fire departments received equipment grants. Departments were loaned \$248,600 in equipment under the Federal Excess Personal Property Program and received title to \$16.7 million in property under the DoD Fire Fighter Property Program. Fire prevention programs were held in 95 communities. Redings Mills became the state's first Firewise Community USA.

#### Forest Health Protection

Emerald ash borer (EAB) was found in Missouri in 2008 in southeast Wayne County, centered on the Greenville Recreation Area campground at Wappapello Lake. Aggressive surveys, removal of infested and large trees, and a systemic insecticide are in place in an attempt to reduce the EAB population and spread. Recent finds of thousand cankers disease (TCD) in nearby states has increased the threat to Missouri's walnut trees. With Forest Service assistance, surveys were conducted on a total of 215 sites in 2011. Fortunately, TCD was not found on any of these sites.

#### Forest Legacy

The state's first project features over six and a half miles of very high quality stream habitat on its 429 acres. The watershed's underlying sandstone geology supports five different types of imperiled natural communities. Missouri resolved an issue about a building on the site as part of the process.

#### Landowner Assistance

Missouri has 311,953 acres of private forestland enrolled in the Program. Landowner participation is voluntary, so the program is only successful if landowners are committed to managing their forestland. Their participation qualifies them for cost share assistance for a variety of forestry practices. In spite of the voluntary nature of the program, some 70% of stewardship plans written have been implemented according to plan as determined by annual plan monitoring. Department of Conservation foresters and consulting foresters write new or revised Forest Stewardship plans.

#### **Urban and Community Forestry**

The Urban and Community Forestry Program assisted communities through grants, promotion and coordination of volunteer-driven community forestry programs, and educational workshops. After an F5 tornado struck the communities of Joplin and Duquesne on May 22nd, Program staff helped assess tree damage and provided technical and financial assistance to help in recovery efforts.

# Wood Education and Resource Center (WERC)

The Missouri Department of Conservation and WERC evaluated projects at thirteen school districts in MO as part of a FS-funded ARRA project. Seven projects were selected for more in-depth analysis and potential funding. Six schools implemented projects that are now operational.



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