



New York 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
 1,890,669
 1,674,256
 1,230,857
 60,000
4,855,782

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

Key Issues

- Invasives response, especially emerald ash borer.
- Inadequate staff due to early retirements and hiring restrictions, even with grant money or earned revenues, is limiting work capacity.
- "Keeping forests as forests" during the economic downturn, high property taxes, the value of land for non-forest uses, low returns from traditional forest products, and delays or opposition to new forest product markets such as renewable fuel and ecosystem services.
- Climate change.
- Water quality protection.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments

Selected Facts

Population	19,378,102
Acres of Forest Land	18,863,598
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	13,710,000
Number of NIPF Landowners	686,000
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	23,132,960
Number of Rural Fire Departments	1,741
Cities and Towns	617
Forest Based Employment	46,958
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	5
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	18,000,000

Selected FY 2011 Accomplishments

Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance (Each)	4,201
Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	90,950
Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	36,335
Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted (Each)	460
State Fire Communities Assisted (Each)	1,086
Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	0
Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions (Acres)	0
Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	288
Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	14,594,611
Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance (Hours)	247,681

Program Highlights:

Cooperative Fire Protection

National Fire Plan funds helped the state enforce a new springtime burning ban, cutting the number of wildfires caused by debris burning by a third. Funds were also used to purchase 20 ATV/UTVs for remote fires and prescribed fires. The Division mapped 32,000 wildfires reported from 2005 to 2009 under its communities-at-risk project. Rangers supported 11 prescribed fires on 330 acres. Equipment at 11 weather stations was upgraded. 446 Volunteer Fire Assistance grants were awarded. 57 wildfire and ICS classes and 65 fire prevention events were held.

Forest Health Protection

Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee caused notable damage across the Hudson Valley and central New York, and north into the eastern Adirondacks. Emerald ash borer was confirmed in three more counties, including Albany, Erie, and Orange. Slow Ash Mortality activities and research are ongoing at all EAB sites. Elongate hemlock scale and hemlock woolly adelgid continue to impact hemlock health in the Hudson Valley/Catskills/Finger Lakes Regions. Experts continued to monitor for the invasive European oak borer, oak wilt, thousand cankers disease, and Phytophthora ramorum, with no finds. The most important defoliator was forest tent caterpillar, which stripped leaves on 21,270 acres.

Forest Legacy

The state hosted the Area-wide Program meeting in the Adirondack Park, where 15 States were represented. Attendees visited a recently completed Forest Legacy project that includes historical and cultural features.

Landowner Assistance

In 2011, the Stewardship Program (FSP) developed and/or revised 649 stewardship plans covering 90,950 acres, of which 36,335 acres are located in defined Important Forest Areas. Technical assistance was provided to 1,983 landowners, and 2,218 landowners took part in educational programs offered by the NY FSP.

Urban and Community Forestry

The New York City Million Trees Program has provided an opportunity for the state to meet tree canopy goals, provide job training assistance, and continue to involve forestry staff and the public in forest restoration and stewardship projects. Last year, New York City Parks used State Environmental Protection Funds to support tree planting and stewardship, reaching the 500,000 trees-planted mark. Million Trees Program activities included thousands of hours of volunteer time. Each planting season, DEC foresters dedicate time to tree planting activities.

Wood Education and Resource Center (WERC)

A Rainforest Alliance project is preparing the wood flooring industry to address supply chain issues for environmentally responsible wood. In cooperation with the National Wood Flooring Association, Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers and others, they have produced a chain of custody certification toolkit and a draft set of protocols for Forest Stewardship Council and American Tree Farm System Dual Group Forest Certification. Wood energy feasibility studies are underway at numerous locations.



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