



# Pennsylvania 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**  
 1,890,338  
 928,820  
 452,933  
 0  
**3,272,091**

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

## Key Issues

- Marcellus impact (fragmentation, environmental or ecological degradation)
- Exotic insects and disease management, especially hemlock woolly adelgid, emerald ash borer, gypsy moth, and beech bark disease.
- Land use changes; rotation of lands into and out of the forest land base.
- Forestland ownership issues, especially parcelization and changing management.
- Economic challenges and changes in perceived forest values (how forest and land is valued and taxed).

## Forest Facts and Accomplishments

### Selected Facts

Population	12,702,379
Acres of Forest Land	16,763,821
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	11,505,000
Number of NIPF Landowners	497,000
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	17,000,000
Number of Rural Fire Departments	2,650
Cities and Towns	1,015
Forest Based Employment	72,173
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	2
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	32,990,000

### Selected FY 2011 Accomplishments

Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance (Each)	5,020
Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	6,614
Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	2,630
Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted (Each)	200
State Fire Communities Assisted (Each)	0
Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	0
Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions (Acres)	0
Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	415
Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	6,843,142
Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance (Hours)	47,947

## Program Highlights:

### Cooperative Fire Protection

The state used National Fire Plan funds to acquire a wildland fire suppression and support vehicle and to purchase and place wildland fire equipment around the state. Over 5,000 firefighters received wildfire-related training. 165 volunteer fire departments received grants for \$1.3 million of equipment and training. Fire departments were loaned fire equipment worth \$557,812 under the Federal Excess Personal Property Program, and took title to more than \$3.8 million in acquisitions under the DoD Fire Fighter Property Program.

### Forest Health Protection

Pennsylvania forests are generally healthy thanks to the population crash of forest tent caterpillar in northern counties and fall cankerworm in Westmoreland and Somerset Counties, and low populations of gypsy moth. Thousand canker disease of black walnut was confirmed on black walnut branch samples from Bucks County, north of Doylestown. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture set an internal quarantine to restrict movement of black walnut wood, bark, or by-product from Bucks County.

### Forest Legacy

The Program expanded by two Forest Legacy Areas this year. The newly approved Areas will increase opportunities to protect blocks of important forest land within the Commonwealth.

### Landowner Assistance

2011 marked a new partnership between the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Bureau of Forestry and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, PA office. Using Farm Bill programs and collaboration, nearly \$1.2 million of Farm Bill funds supported the development of 36 Forest Management Plans on 2,500 acres, most of which will be completed within a year, and for non-commercial forest management practices to enhance a variety of forest goals on more than 4,200 acres.

### Urban and Community Forestry

Each metropolitan area has a county or regional government "Metro Partner" to help administer community grants. Nearly 300,000 trees have been planted: larger trees on streets and in parks, seedlings in riparian buffers, and backyard trees on private property. The TreeVitalize program offers "Tree Tenders" workshops which cover tree benefits, biology, planting, and maintenance. The first "Community Tree Management Institute" was held in 2011 to provide more advanced guidance in establishing sustained urban forest management programs.

### Wood Education and Resource Center (WERC)

WERC helped to support a timber product output survey to update an older report. The information is important to capitalize on the growing interest in woody biomass for energy. Wood energy feasibility studies have been completed at more than Pennsylvania 20 facilities. Implementation projects are underway at the Warren State Hospital, and at schools in Sullivan County, Crawford County, and Fulton County.



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