



Vermont Forest Resource Fact Sheet

Fiscal Year 2012

Steven J Sinclair, State Forester

Phone: 802-241-3678

Fax: 802-244-1481

Web: www.vtfpr.org/index.cfm E-mail: steve.sinclair@state.vt.us

Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

Cooperative Fire Protection
 Cooperative Forestry
 Forest Health Management
 Forest Legacy
Total

FY 2011
Final
 447,705
 669,982
 675,624
 2,039,340
3,832,651

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

Key Issues

- Conserving Biological Diversity: Conversion of forests to other uses.
- Forest Health and Productivity: Introduction and spread of invasive species.
- Forest Products and Ecosystem Services: Identifying all potential marketing opportunities.
- Land Ethic: Educating all residents on the value and benefits of trees and forests.
- Legal, Institutional and Economic Framework: Stable and equitable tax structure that encourages retention and management of forests.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments

Selected Facts

Population	625,741
Acres of Forest Land	4,580,357
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	3,612,000
Number of NIPF Landowners	88,000
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	4,700,000
Number of Rural Fire Departments	222
Cities and Towns	46
Forest Based Employment	5,332
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	2
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	3,768,904

Selected FY 2011 Accomplishments

Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance (Each)	6,321
Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	150,520
Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	78,285
Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted (Each)	100
State Fire Communities Assisted (Each)	33
Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	0
Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions (Acres)	6,164
Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	66
Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	373,560
Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance (Hours)	13,436

Program Highlights:

Cooperative Fire Protection

National Fire Plan funds aided in firefighter training, purchase of wildland fire gear, prescribed burns to reduce hazardous fuels, dry fire hydrants, resource mobilization, and other projects. Forestry Division staff trained 460 firefighters and fire staff. Wildland fire gear went to 44 towns using VFA funds. Forestry Division staff worked on five prescribed burns, treating 64 acres. Funding was provided for 15 dry hydrant installation projects. State fire personnel assisted with two Community Wildfire Protection Plans.

Forest Health Protection

Flooding from spring rains and tropical storm Irene inundated thousands of acres of forest land along lakes and streams, uprooting trees, undermining root systems, and wounding tree trunks with floating debris. Receding flood waters left a thick layer of sediment in many places, burying roots. The flooding of the State Office Complex in downtown Waterbury displaced staff and destroyed a century's worth of historical records and photos. A wet spring set the stage for foliage diseases, especially white pine needlecast and Septoria leafspot on birch at high elevations. Experts continued to monitor for the emerald ash borer and Asian longhorned beetle with no finds.

Forest Legacy

Vermont completed two projects totaling 8,403 acres, creating a 30,000 acre block of conserved forest in the northern woods. Projects safeguard land adjacent to the Long Trail State Forest and other protected lands, including an earlier FLP project.

Landowner Assistance

The Program is working closely with the NRCS State Technical Committee to administer the EQIP and WHIP programs for forest owners and to advise on stewardship plan standards and forestry practices. The state entered into an Agreement with VT NRCS to hire two foresters to work with District Conservation staff to administer and monitor EQIP and Forestry WHIP Plans. A Forest Stand Improvement Practice was developed based on a Redesign Project: "Foresters for the Birds." Landowners who are not enrolled in Vermont's Use Value Appraisal Program (current use) program can use a new template to align Forest Stewardship with Tree Farm plans.

Urban and Community Forestry

To move towards a more sustainable future, the state teamed up with the Storm Water and Ecosystem Restoration Program to develop a Green Storm Water Infrastructure Initiative. A Roundtable, made up of experts in storm water management from both the public and private sector, was created to standardize green storm water infrastructure practices in Vermont and to develop a strategic plan. The plan identifies challenges to widespread adoption of green storm water infrastructure practices and describes a set of objectives and tactics to address those challenges.

Wood Education and Resource Center

A wood energy feasibility study is underway for the Green Mountain Club dormitory in Waterbury Center. The Vermont Wood Products Collaborative sponsored the 8th Annual Fine Furniture and Woodworking Festival, where over 60 Vermont woodworking companies demonstrated the talents of Vermont's wood craftsmen and sharing the "forest to finished product" story. For details: <http://www.vermontwoodfestival.org/index.php>



Northeastern Area S&PF, USDA Forest Service

Tony Ferguson, Director

E-mail: ferguson@fs.fed.us | Phone: 610-557-4103 | FAX: 610-557-4177 | WEB: <http://www.na.fs.fed.us>

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