



Wisconsin 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
 2,062,002
 613,850
 718,497
 2,540,000
5,934,349

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

Key Issues

- Importance of forests for wood products, recreation, and environmental services- water quality, clean air, carbon storage to mitigate climate change, and renewable energy. Need to develop and maintain markets.
- Threats to sustainable forestry from non-native invasive species such as Emerald Ash Borer, Gypsy Moth, Buckthorn, and Garlic Mustard.
- Assessing and increasing urban tree canopy to promote ecological, social, and economic well being in the state's metropolitan areas.
- Forest land fragmentation, parcelization, and the growing rate of development in the Wildland/Urban Interface and in communities at risk.
- Changing demographics among both large and small private forest landowners, and the need for tools to enhance long-term sustainability of these forests.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments

Selected Facts

Population	5,686,986
Acres of Forest Land	16,872,348
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	10,438,000
Number of NIPF Landowners	362,000
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	31,299,000
Number of Rural Fire Departments	947
Cities and Towns	594
Forest Based Employment	74,548
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	1
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	29,004,400

Selected FY 2011 Accomplishments

Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance (Each)	18,024
Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	90,142
Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	20,360
Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted (Each)	600
State Fire Communities Assisted (Each)	580
Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	199,192
Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions (Acres)	22,672
Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	229
Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	3,443,420
Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance (Hours)	5,994

Program Highlights:

Cooperative Fire Protection

National Fire Plan funds aided in 36 fuels reduction projects. 13,000 acres were treated with prescribed fire and hundreds more by mechanical fuel reduction featuring chipping days, brush collection, removal of storm damaged trees, and fuel breaks. The Division used State Fire Assistance and Volunteer Fire Assistance funds to provide 50/50 cost share grants to 185 rural fire departments for protective clothing, equipment, and dry hydrant installation. Over 4,000 firefighters received wildfire-related training.

Forest Health Protection

Emerald ash borer (EAB), a foreign pest, has been found in 12 counties, resulting in quarantines. Landowner workshops were offered on wood utilization, harvesting, and stewardship for EAB-impacted areas, primarily north of Milwaukee and south of LaCrosse. Biological control releases have begun. Best Management Practices to control and reduce movement of invasive plants are being promoted to professional resource managers and user groups.

Forest Legacy

In two closings, Wisconsin protected 22,672 acres of sustainably managed northern hardwood timber vital to the local and regional economy. The newly protected forest land connects important conservation areas including the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and the Lac Courte Oreille Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.

Landowner Assistance

A July windstorm in northwest Wisconsin dealt the worst storm damage to privately owned forestland since 1976. The Division of Forestry was part of a multi-agency emergency response team, helping landowners find help to salvage useable wood and restore damaged stands. Sales of storm-damaged timber occurred on 44,000 acres of private lands and 16,000 acres of public forest land. The wildfire danger from storm-damaged material near homes, farms, and communities also qualified the state for hazard mitigation and urban forestry grants to assist with recovery.

Urban and Community Forestry

In addition to traditional outreach and assistance, this year's program included several creative tree-planting partnerships. For example, the "First Down for Trees" program featured the Green Bay Packers football team, Brown County, area municipalities, the Oneida Nation, Wisconsin Public Service Corporation, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources: A tree was planted for each Packers first down. Over 450 trees were planted due to the Packers' good play and a donation of 132 additional trees by Meacham's Nursery.

Wood Education and Resource Center (WERC)

WI DNR Forestry and partners recently worked with the City of Beloit to study and demonstrate harvesting of trees affected with emerald ash borer in a city environment. A webinar about the project and results is at: <https://umconnect.umn.edu/p78694155/>.



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