



West Virginia 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
 1,075,950
 1,073,725
 575,412
 62,183
2,787,270

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

Key Issues

- Improve the State's economy by maintaining and attracting new primary and secondary forest product manufacturers.
- Reduce acreage of forestland burned by arson and mine break fires.
- Educate the general public, especially NIPF landowners, about forestry and conservation issues.
- Develop a better understanding of the relationship between forest practices and forest hydrology.
- Develop BMPs to ensure sustainable biomass production levels.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments

Selected Facts

Population	1,852,994
Acres of Forest Land	12,135,334
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	10,418,000
Number of NIPF Landowners	251,000
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	12,000,000
Number of Rural Fire Departments	432
Cities and Towns	232
Forest Based Employment	10,198
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	1
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	8,007,548

Selected FY 2011 Accomplishments

Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance (Each)	6,857
Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	17,615
Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	15,350
Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted (Each)	100
State Fire Communities Assisted (Each)	341
Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	0
Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions (Acres)	0
Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	41
Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	314,754
Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance (Hours)	4,620

Program Highlights:

Cooperative Fire Protection

National Fire Plan funds aided in firefighter training, wildland fire suppression, equipment acquisition, improved radio communications, firefighter protective equipment, and wildfire prevention programs. 675 Fire Prevention programs reached over 48,700 students. 800 firefighters received wildland fire-related training. VFA wildland fire equipment grants went to 35 volunteer fire departments for Personal protective and wildfire suppression equipment. The Division of Forestry continued to promote Firewise and defensible space in high risk communities.

Forest Health Protection

New detections of Emerald ash borer in 11 counties raised the number of infested counties to 17. APHIS released two types of parasites. The State's Department of Agriculture joined several state and federal agencies to protect and conserve the state's hemlocks. A new find in Wayne County brings the total number of counties infested with hemlock woolly adelgid to 40. Parasites were released in an attempt to control the insect. WVDA continued to treat high-value infested hemlocks with pesticides. About 700 trees were treated at 21 state and federal sites.

Forest Legacy

West Virginia improved its acquisition processes and procedures to shorten the time between funding of FLP tracts and closing. By making the acquisition process more efficient, the state will be able to more efficiently process the multiple tracts that make up each of their projects.

Landowner Assistance

Over 150 service foresters and consultant foresters attended a Forest Stewardship Plan Writers workshop, where the Division of Forestry (DoF) reviewed all aspects of a Forest Stewardship plan. Outside experts covered non-timber resource features such as archeological, cultural and historic sites; threatened and endangered species and unique habitats; and the WV Tree Farm program. DoF also reviewed the Firewise Program and led attendees through an on-line exercise to access maps for Stewardship plans.

Urban and Community Forestry

The Eastern Panhandle is the state's fastest-growing region. A new project features public/private partnerships, using urban tree canopy assessments to identify priority lands and to develop county and municipal land management strategies. Initiatives in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed will increase public benefits from urban trees and surrounding forest land. Key project partners include the Cacapon Institute, the University of Vermont, and communities in the Eastern Panhandle.

Wood Education and Resource Center (WERC)

West Virginia University is completing a project about improving efficiency and economic competitiveness of small sawmills in West Virginia and surrounding states. A second project will identify consumer demand for hardwood products in the emerging green building market. The Wood Energy Technical Assistance Team is working with a sawmill to reduce emissions from its wood fired system. Better air and fuel management strategies have already substantially reduced emissions at the facility.



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