



West Virginia



State & Private Forestry Fact Sheet

Investment in State's Cooperative Programs:

Program	FY 2011 Final
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	575,412
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management - National Fire Plan	0
Forest Legacy	62,183
Forest Stewardship	559,872
State Fire Assistance	338,064
State Fire Assistance - National Fire Plan	593,881
Urban and Community Forestry	513,853
Volunteer Fire Assistance	77,236
Volunteer Fire Assistance - National Fire Plan	66,769
Total	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		FY2011 Accomplishments	
Population	1,852,994	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance (Each)	6,857
Acres of Forest Land	12,135,334	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	17,615
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	10,418,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	15,350
Number of NIPF Landowners	251,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted (Each)	100
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	State Fire Communities Assisted (Each)	341
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	12,000,000	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	0
Number of Rural Fire Departments	432	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions (Acres)	0
Cities and Towns	232	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	41
Forest Based Employment	10,198	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	314,754
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	1	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance (Hours)	4,620
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	8,007,548		

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.

For more information contact:



West Virginia Department of Commerce

C Randall Dye
Division of Forestry
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, WV 25305-0180
Ph: 304-558-3446
Fax: 304-558-0143
Email: c.randy.dye@wv.gov

Northeastern Area S&PF

Tony Ferguson
USDA Forest Service
11 Campus Blvd., Suite 200
Newtown Square, PA 19073
Ph: 610-557-4103
Fax: 610-557-4177
Email: tferguson@fs.fed.us

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Last Updated: February 2, 2012