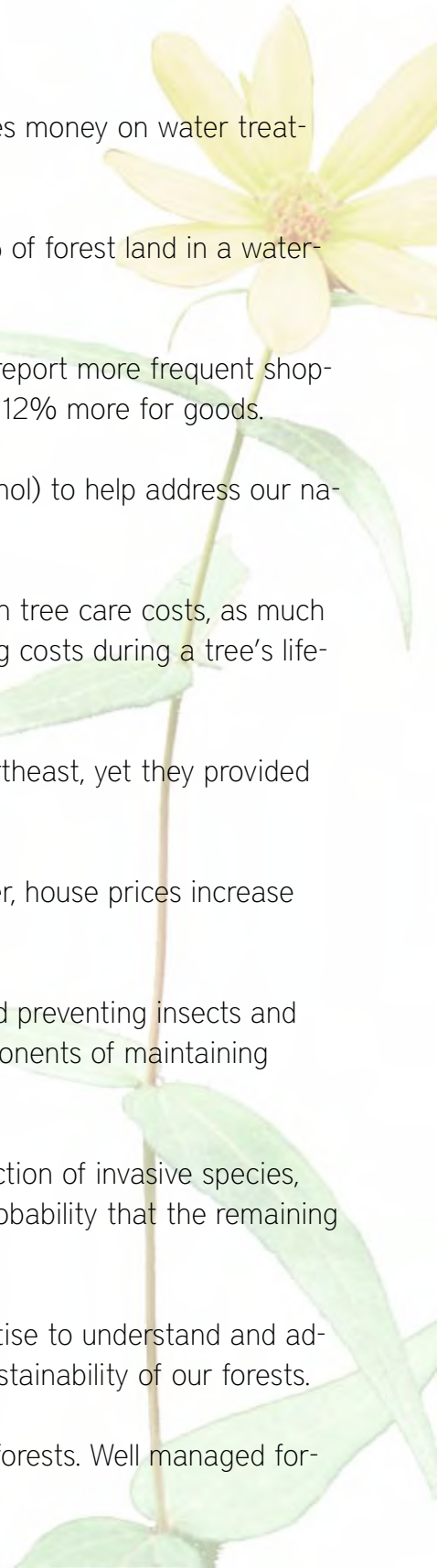


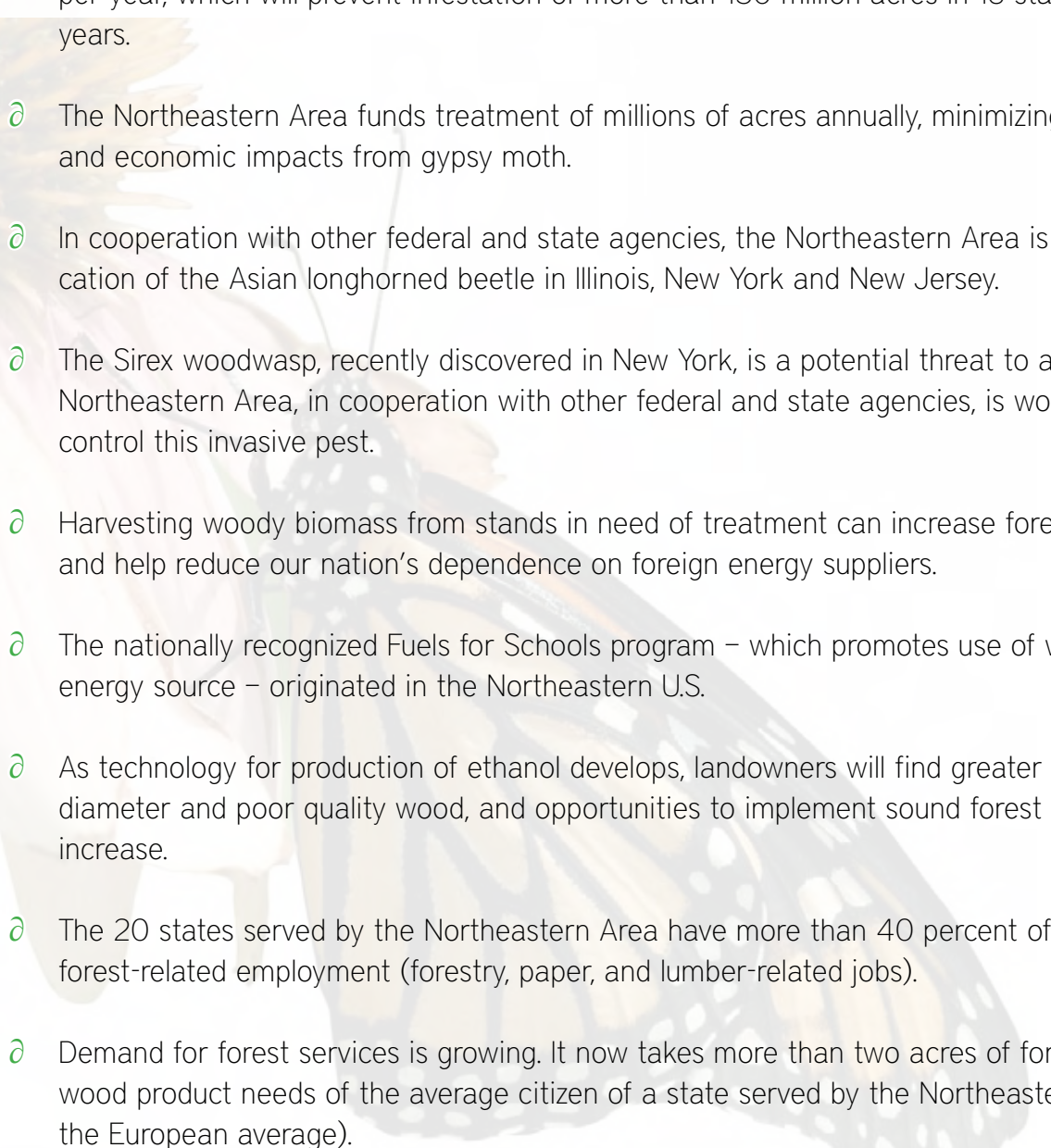


Forest Health & Economics

Did You Know?

- ∂ Spending money on forest management “upstream” in a watershed saves money on water treatment “downstream.”
- ∂ The cost of treating drinking water increases 20% for every loss of 10% of forest land in a watershed.
- ∂ Trees mean better business. In tree-lined commercial districts, shoppers report more frequent shopping, willingness to pay more for parking, and willingness to spend up to 12% more for goods.
- ∂ Private forests have the capacity (via conversion of wood waste to ethanol) to help address our nation’s dependence on foreign fuel supplies.
- ∂ The benefits derived from trees provide a return three times greater than tree care costs, as much as \$2500 in environmental services such as reduced heating and cooling costs during a tree’s lifetime.
- ∂ Private timberlands make up only 76% of the forestland area in the Northeast, yet they provided more than 85% of the nation’s annual wood production during 2001.
- ∂ Proximity to natural area open spaces increases housing prices. Moreover, house prices increase with the size of the natural area.
- ∂ Forest management activities such as planning, planting, suppressing and preventing insects and diseases, mitigating hazards, and reducing wildfire risk are integral components of maintaining healthy, well-managed forests and restoring ecosystems.
- ∂ Keeping open-space parcels from being fragmented reduces the introduction of invasive species, improves our ability to manage forests against fire, and increases the probability that the remaining forest land will be sustainably managed.
- ∂ The Northeastern Area provides forest entomology and pathology expertise to understand and address native and non-native forest pests that threaten the health and sustainability of our forests.
- ∂ Invasive pests are a major threat to the health and sustainability of our forests. Well managed forests can prevent or minimize the impacts from this threat.



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- ∂ The Northeastern Area is dealing with five of the major national invasive threats: emerald ash borer, Asian longhorned beetle, Sirex wood wasp, gypsy moth, and hemlock woolly adelgid.
 - ∂ Emerald ash borer has the potential impact of \$7 billion and could decimate the ash genus across the nation.
 - ∂ The Northeastern Area provides expertise to coordinated multiagency efforts to control this many pests.
 - ∂ The Northeastern Area is helping to protect eastern hemlocks, an important riparian tree, from hemlock woolly adelgid. The Northeastern Area supports treatments on nearly 20,000 trees annually and is developing bio-controls for this destructive pest.
 - ∂ The gypsy moth Slow the Spread program has reduced the rate of spread by 70%, to less than 6 km per year, which will prevent infestation of more than 150 million acres in 13 states over the next 20 years.
 - ∂ The Northeastern Area funds treatment of millions of acres annually, minimizing the ecological, social and economic impacts from gypsy moth.
 - ∂ In cooperation with other federal and state agencies, the Northeastern Area is assisting in the eradication of the Asian longhorned beetle in Illinois, New York and New Jersey.
 - ∂ The Sirex woodwasp, recently discovered in New York, is a potential threat to all U.S. pine trees. The Northeastern Area, in cooperation with other federal and state agencies, is working to contain and control this invasive pest.
 - ∂ Harvesting woody biomass from stands in need of treatment can increase forest vigor and health, and help reduce our nation's dependence on foreign energy suppliers.
 - ∂ The nationally recognized Fuels for Schools program – which promotes use of woody biomass as an energy source – originated in the Northeastern U.S.
 - ∂ As technology for production of ethanol develops, landowners will find greater markets for small diameter and poor quality wood, and opportunities to implement sound forest management will increase.
 - ∂ The 20 states served by the Northeastern Area have more than 40 percent of the U.S. total of forest-related employment (forestry, paper, and lumber-related jobs).
 - ∂ Demand for forest services is growing. It now takes more than two acres of forest to supply the wood product needs of the average citizen of a state served by the Northeastern Area (2.5 times the European average).