



Connecticut Forest Resource Fact Sheet 2025

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Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

Program	FY 2024 Final
Cooperative Fire Protection	\$0
Cooperative Forestry	\$0
Forest Health Management	\$0
Forest Legacy and Community Forestry	\$0
Total	\$0

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

Key Issues

- Maintaining forest ecosystem health and biodiversity.
- Promoting stewardship of public forests.
- Protecting private forest lands.
- Providing for forest-based recreational opportunities.
- Supporting a sustainable forest-based economy.
- Fostering public awareness and support of forests.
- Advocating and implementing effective forest planning and policy.
- Importance of ongoing forest research.
- The role of urban forestry in Connecticut.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments

Selected Facts	Value	FY 2024 Accomplishments	Value
Population	3,605,944	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance	2,102
Acres of Forest Land	1,753,085	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	4,981
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	731,099	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	1,245
Number of NIPF Landowners	17,071	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted	53
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	State Fire Communities Assisted	305
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	2,390,000	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	0
Number of Rural Fire Departments	276	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions	0
Cities and Towns	179	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	75
Forest Based Employment	10,050	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	2,477,014
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	6	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance	5,580
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	1,627,000		

Program Highlights

Cooperative Fire Protection

Connecticut supported 38 volunteer fire departments with grants. State Fire Capacity funds were used for training 500 personnel, treating 20 acres of hazardous fuels, equipment, supplies, and 75 fire prevention programs.

Economic Action

In 2024, one Connecticut project received \$176,764 for Forest Markets' Wood Innovations Funding. Project work with this grant includes installing a debarker to improve overall sawmill efficiency.

Forest Stewardship

The Connecticut Forest Stewardship Program reported 47 new or revised forest stewardship plans, covering 4,981 acres. In 2024, 1,706 landowners attended education programs, and there were 396 landowner technical assists. Over \$500,000 in Environmental Quality Incentives Program dollars went to forestry-related plans and projects in the past year. The Connecticut Forest Stewardship Program is facilitating the development of an GIS toolset designed to identify underserved landowners, target outreach efforts, and track services rendered. Additionally, the program is soon launching a GIS-based Stewardship landowner intake form that will sync with the toolset, increasing programmatic efficiencies and improving data management. The program has been effective in establishing MOUs and other avenues to receive Forest Stewardship Plans from partners such as Connecticut Natural Resource

Conservation Service and Connecticut Land Conservation Council.

Connecticut does not operate a State nursery. The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station manages seed orchards and forest research plots. Through the Forest Stewardship program and National Reforestation, Nurseries, and Genetics Resource program, the State receives financial assistance to support nursery, genetics, and seed programs.

Landscape Scale Restoration

Grantee: University of Connecticut

Federal Investment: \$102,817 (Multi-State Project)

Project: Northeast Mid-Atlantic Partnership for Forests and Water

Summary: The Northeast-Mid-Atlantic Partnership for Forests and Water is an interagency, multi-partner collaboration that advances restoration of priority forest landscapes and protects water from West Virginia to Maine. This project will facilitate continued collaboration among the diverse array of partners in states across the northeast and mid-Atlantic, will foster shared learning, and support forested watershed restoration activities.

Grantee: National Association of Conservation Districts

Federal Investment: \$585,824 (Multi-State Project)

Project: Northeast Mid-Atlantic Partnership for Forests and Water

Summary: The Northeast-Mid-Atlantic Partnership for Forests and Water is an interagency, multi-partner collaboration that advances restoration of priority forest landscapes and protects water from West Virginia to Maine. This project will facilitate continued collaboration among the diverse array of partners in states across the northeast and mid-Atlantic, will foster shared learning, and support forested watershed restoration activities.

Urban and Community Forestry

The Urban and Community Forestry Program (UCF) at the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection advises, assists, and provides resources to municipalities, non-profit organizations, volunteer groups and residents interested in planting, protecting, and maintaining their urban and community forests. In 2024, the UCF program worked with partners at the University of Connecticut to develop and implement a capacity building program. This program conducted six community visioning sessions including workshops on mapping and outreach. In 2024, the UCF team launched a round of new funding with 10 urban and community forestry projects selected. Funded projects will support tree planting, maintenance of existing tree canopy, and workforce development programs in areas across Connecticut. In 2024, the UCF team also contributed to Connecticut's weather action plan. The UCF program reported on carbon storage, sequestration, pollution reduction, and other benefits provided by trees planted in urban areas.



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