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# **Investment in State's Cooperative Programs**

Program	FY 2024 Final
Cooperative Fire Protection	\$4,397,555
Cooperative Forestry	\$2,553,749
Forest Health Management	\$359,820
Forest Legacy and Community Forestry	\$255,000
Total	\$7,566,124

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

# **Key Issues**

- · Expand, preserve, and improve the urban forest.
- Cultivate an urban forest that is equitable, inclusive, and accessible.
- Multi-State priority areas: Mid-Atlantic Shared Stewardship and Interjurisdictional cooperation in urban forestry.

### **Forest Facts and Accomplishments**

Selected Facts	Value	FY 2024 Accomplishments	Value
Population	689,545	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance	0
Acres of Forest Land	0		
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	0	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	0
Number of NIPF Landowners	0	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	0
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0		
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	0	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted	0
Number of Rural Fire Departments	0	State Fire Communities Assisted	0
Cities and Towns	1	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	0
Forest Based Employment	178	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions	0
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	4	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program	1
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	2,600,000	Assistance	
	2,000,000	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	689,545
		Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance	4,637

### **Program Highlights**

#### Chesapeake Bay Watershed

The Chesapeake Shared Stewardship Agreement is being implemented and will help the District of Columbia meet its mandated water quality improvement goals for the Chesapeake Bay through watershed forestry. The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) Urban Forestry Division led in the restoration of 35 acres of urban tree canopy in the most recent reporting cycle, approved in 2024. Other significant watershed forestry activities in 2024 included participating in the Chesapeake Forestry Workgroup's Urban Tree Supply Forum held in August and contributing to the development of a new two-year workplan for tree canopy efforts at the Chesapeake Bay Program.

#### Forest Health Protection

Washington D.C. hired a new forest health cooperator. The direction of urban forest health in D.C. through District Department of Transportation will likely become more focused on proper tree care in green spaces versus exotic beetle surveys as in previous years. Surveys for tree-of-Heaven and spotted lanternfly have occurred throughfunding, as well as non-organized beech leaf disease surveys across the city.

# Urban and Community Forestry

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) Urban Forestry Division continues to make progress towards the District's 40% canopy goal, planting on average over 8,000 street trees annually and expanding plantings on parks, schools, and other public properties throughout the city. District funded planting programs on private property have also been expanded. The District targets planting in areas of heat vulnerability and strives to distribute planting equitably across all communities. The food forest program has also continued to grow. Impervious surfaces are removed and tree planting spaces are enlarged and improved to increase planting opportunities and to ensure trees thrive. District Urban Foresters are working with Forest Health staff to improve our planting selections with the goal of resilience. Outreach efforts have been expanded, with new partners and broader reach helping

us maintain high levels of public education and community engagement. Chozen Consulting, LLC has helped us expand our outreach footprint with new partnerships, bringing outdoor learning activities, bird watching, forest bathing and nature walks to District residents. DDOT has expanded urban wood utilization efforts with schools, our newest partner the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services and other community partners, with a fully operational portable sawmill that gives new life to hazard trees that are removed in the District. D.C. is in the process of implementing funds in alignment with our Forest Action Plan, and Urban Forestry Master Plan objectives.



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