



# Iowa Forest Resource Fact Sheet 2025

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## Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

Program	FY 2024 Final
Cooperative Fire Protection	\$777,085
Cooperative Forestry	\$433,112
Forest Health Management	\$77,584
Forest Legacy and Community Forestry	\$4,650,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,937,781</b>

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

## Key Issues

- Maximize forest health and productivity.
- Strategically grow Iowa's forests.
- Promote the benefits of Iowa's forest resources.

## Forest Facts and Accomplishments

Selected Facts	Value	FY 2024 Accomplishments	Value
Population	3,190,369	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance	8,522
Acres of Forest Land	2,851,077	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	13,262
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	2,124,686	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	11,168
Number of NIPF Landowners	43,184	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted	170
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	State Fire Communities Assisted	103
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	7,612,000	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	0
Number of Rural Fire Departments	871	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions	0
Cities and Towns	942	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	312
Forest Based Employment	22,454	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	1,998,397
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	3	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance	19,646
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	3,018,917		

## Program Highlights

### Cooperative Fire Protection

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources delivered wildland fire courses to 500 students, funded 5,129 acres of hazardous fuels, and supported Federal wildland fire suppression efforts through the mobilization of firefighters and equipment. Additionally, the state implemented hazardous fuels reduction projects and 50 wildfire prevention education programs. Through State Fire Capacity and Volunteer Fire Capacity, 110 fire departments were supported with grant funding.

### Economic Action

In 2024, one Iowa project received \$29,950 in the Forest Markets' grant funding for the Temporary Bridge Crossings program.

### Forest Health Protection

Emerald ash borer has been confirmed in all 99 counties and is causing significant ash mortality in portions of the state. Iowa forests continue to be affected by weather events, including statewide drought in 2023. Over 6,500 acres were impacted by white oak mortality in 2023. Threats to oak health continue to be oak decline, oak wilt, and bur oak blight. So far, the Slow the Spread Program for spongy moth has prevented oak defoliation by this pest.

### Forest Stewardship

In addition to providing onsite technical assistance, the other pillar of Iowa's Forest Stewardship Program is delivering broad education, outreach, and awareness to Iowa's 138,000 private forest landowners across the state. In that spirit, 2024 saw the release of 31 short videos aimed at providing technical forest management topics directly to landowners. The "Forest Landowner's Toolkit" video library, a collaborative effort between the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and Iowa State University, was funded thanks to a USDA State, Private, and Tribal Forest Service mini-grant and produced by local videography firm, Bottlesode Films. The succinct, Iowa-centric, and often humorous videos have garnered over 2.2k views in their first six months.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources operates one State nursery, located in Ames on the campus of Iowa State University. 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. Funds helped to add a corn-cob storage facility at their state nursery in Ames.



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