



State and Private Forestry Fact Sheet

Illinois 2020



Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

Program	FY 2019 Final
Community Forestry and Open Space	\$0
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	\$85,000
Forest Legacy	\$0
Forest Stewardship	\$149,200
Landscape Scale Restoration	\$317,350
State Fire Assistance	\$260,659
Urban and Community Forestry	\$447,980
Volunteer Fire Assistance	\$445,048
Total	\$1,705,237

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

State, private, and other non-Federal forests make up 92 percent of the 176 million acres of forests across the 20 states of the Northeast and Midwest. The U.S. Forest Service and state forestry agencies collaborate with other partners on shared stewardship goals, which also support each State Forest Action Plan. The State and Private Forestry programs promote the health, resilience, and productivity of trees and forests across all ownerships for the benefit of people and wildlife; establish and manage urban and community forests; empower private landowners with information and technical assistance to sustainably manage their forests; and protect critically important rural forests and watersheds.

Program Goals

- Conserve and manage working forest landscapes for multiple values and uses.
- Protect forests from threats.
- Enhance public benefits from trees and forests.

Key Issues

- Oak-hickory forest decline.
- Fragmentation of large forest blocks.
- Forest health threats are increasing.
- Not enough forestry professionals.
- Forest industries and mills are shrinking.
- Urban and community forests face extreme pressures and challenges.
- Forest funding and other significant threats.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments

Selected Facts	Value	FY 2019 Accomplishments	Value
Population	12,830,632	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance	40,379
Acres of Forest Land	5,023,200	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	31,919
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	3,725,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	26,751
Number of NIPF Landowners	184,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted	40
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	State Fire Communities Assisted	1
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	10,670,000	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	5,985
Number of Rural Fire Departments	1,280	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions	0
Cities and Towns	1,299	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	212
Forest Based Employment	44,145	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	7,781,108
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	8	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance	2,148
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	6,100,000		

Program Highlights

Cooperative Fire Protection

Illinois acquired \$1,062,376 in property from the Department of Defense Fire Fighter Program and \$1,239,313 in property from the Federal Excess Personal Property program. The property is used to support the state's and volunteer fire departments' wildland fire programs.

Forest Health Protection

Currently, 66 Illinois counties are infested with emerald ash borer, with no new infestations in 2019. The entire state is under a quarantine. Surveys for thousand cankers disease continued, with no infested trees found. The Slow the Spread Program for gypsy moth continued to survey the northern quarter of the state and treated small blocks to minimize expansion into the un-infested area.

Forest Stewardship

Illinois's 15 district foresters provide guidance and oversight to approximately 9,500 Forest Stewardship Program participants totaling 535,000 acres. An emphasis on oak regeneration through the Landscape Scale Restoration Program is engaging new landowners and prompting existing program participants to increase their active management. Landowner incentives offered through the Forestry Development Act enhance the financial viability of woodland ownership, which promotes retention and reduces forest fragmentation.

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

Chicago Park District and Lake County Forest Preserves completed forest and wetland restoration projects in valuable Great Lakes coastal habitats, funded through Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) grants through the U.S. Forest Service. Through the GLRI, non-profit organizations and communities continued urban tree planting in the greater Chicago area to mitigate losses to emerald ash borer and reduce stormwater runoff.

Urban and Community Forestry

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources partnered with the U.S. Forest Service and the City of Urbana to revise, print, and distribute one-half million copies of the third edition of "Under the Canopy: A Guide to Selecting, Planting, and Caring for Trees in Illinois". Cases of the publication were provided to 455 dispensing offices and organizations for public distribution around the state.

Contact Information



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