



# State and Private Forestry Fact Sheet

## New York 2020



### Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

Program	FY 2019 Final
Community Forestry and Open Space	\$232,500
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	\$874,439
Forest Legacy	\$30,000
Forest Stewardship	\$228,300
Landscape Scale Restoration	\$297,348
State Fire Assistance	\$1,888,454
Urban and Community Forestry	\$872,000
Volunteer Fire Assistance	\$541,923
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,964,964</b>

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

- Keeping forests as forests: Retaining New York's forests.
- Sustaining working landscapes: Working to provide a range of forest benefits and services.
- Sustainable forestry practices.
- Sustainable markets for sustainable timber products.
- Water quality and supply.
- Biodiversity.
- Forest health.
- Climate change.
- Urban tree canopy and green infrastructure.
- Connections between people and the outdoors.

## Forest Facts and Accomplishments

<b>Selected Facts</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>FY 2019 Accomplishments</b>	<b>Value</b>
Population	19,378,102	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance	1,896
Acres of Forest Land	18,673,171	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	68,244
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	13,710,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	29,010
Number of NIPF Landowners	686,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted	345
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	State Fire Communities Assisted	1,071
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	23,132,960	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	678
Number of Rural Fire Departments	1,741	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions	0
Cities and Towns	617	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	255
Forest Based Employment	46,958	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	14,509,197
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	5	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance	84,377
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	18,000,000		

## Program Highlights

### **Cooperative Fire Protection**

New York was awarded two competitive State Fire Assistance grants. The first grant was to the Albany Pine Bush Preserve (APBP) to continue fire-adapted ecosystem restoration by mechanical and chemical treatment methods in preparation for the use of prescribed fire. The APBP is habitat for rare and endangered species that depend on fire for habitat preservation. The second project will upgrade the existing Fire Dander Rating System in New York to have daily, year-round, automated micro-landscape fire danger ratings for timber, slash, brush, and grass fuel models for all 998 towns and cities in New York State, home to 19.8 million residents.

### **Forest Health Protection**

Southern pine beetle continues to cause pine mortality on Long Island, but damage has been reduced below outbreak levels in part due to sustained suppression efforts. Severe ash mortality from the emerald ash borer has been observed in many areas of the state where the infestation is older. Research activities into biological control and attempts to locate resistant ash trees are being conducted. The deadly beech leaf disease was in Cattaraugus, Erie, Westchester, Rockland, Suffolk counties. Sites that showed light symptoms last year showed heavy symptoms this year. Decline was seen in Chautauqua, Westchester, and Suffolk counties. Suppression efforts continue against the invasive plants giant hogweed and kudzu. White pine needle damage and red pine decline continues.

### **Forest Stewardship**

The New York Forest Stewardship Program reported 299 new or revised stewardship plans covering 68,244 acres, of which 29,010 acres were in Important Forest Areas per New York's Strategic Forest Action Plan. In addition, 1,120 landowners were provided forestry technical assistance and 776 landowners participated in education programs.

### **Landscape Scale Restoration**

New York initiated work on a 2017 Landscape Scale Restoration grant project that will assist forest landowners who neighbor state-owned forest management lands with forest management activities that expand or complement activities already undertaken by state forest managers.

### **Urban and Community Forestry**

The Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) program awarded \$2.24 million from New York's Environmental Protection Fund to 54 urban forestry projects. Arbor Day's Tree City USA program is

popular in New York and continues to grow. Across the state, 143 communities were certified for Tree City. New York's UCF program hosts a special annual event for these communities to honor their efforts and provide educational programs. It also supports ReLeaf committees in each of the nine Department of Environmental Conservation regions to provide technical assistance, education, and networking opportunities. One committee assisted with Arbor Day activities in Geneseo, which has been impacted by emerald ash borer, and provided technical assistance to help Geneseo apply for their first Tree City USA certification.

---

## Contact Information



### **New York Dept. of Environmental Conservation**

Robert K Davies  
*State Forester*  
625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12233-4250  
518-402-9405  
[robert.davies@dec.ny.gov](mailto:robert.davies@dec.ny.gov)

### **US Forest Service Eastern Region**

Bob Lueckel  
*Deputy Regional Forester*  
USDA Forest Service  
626 E Wisconsin Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53202-4616  
414-297-3600  
[bob.lueckel@usda.gov](mailto:bob.lueckel@usda.gov)

---