State, Private Forestry Fact Sheet
West Virginia 2020

Investment in State’s Cooperative Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>FY 2019 Final</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Forestry and Open Space</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management</td>
<td>$310,854</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Legacy</td>
<td>$68,101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Stewardship</td>
<td>$327,611</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape Scale Restoration</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Fire Assistance</td>
<td>$644,788</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban and Community Forestry</td>
<td>$338,047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Fire Assistance</td>
<td>$161,852</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,851,253</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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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

- Competing land uses.
- Communications and education.
- Sustainability of forest resources in West Virginia.
- Water quality.
- Wildfire management, resource protection, and public safety.
- Sustainability of urban forests.
- Forest health.
- Utilization, marketing, and economic development.
## Forest Facts and Accomplishments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected Facts</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>1,852,994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres of Forest Land</td>
<td>11,983,571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land</td>
<td>10,418,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of NIPF Landowners</td>
<td>251,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection</td>
<td>12,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Rural Fire Departments</td>
<td>432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cities and Towns</td>
<td>232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Based Employment</td>
<td>10,198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Forestry Budget (All Sources)</td>
<td>8,007,548</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY 2019 Accomplishments</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance</td>
<td>8,668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans</td>
<td>7,907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans</td>
<td>7,308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Fire Communities Assisted</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coop Forest Health Acres Protected</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Living in Communities</td>
<td>489,128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance</td>
<td>7,745</td>
</tr>
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## Program Highlights

### Cooperative Fire Protection
West Virginia acquired $85,256 in property from the Department of Defense Fire Fighter Program and $69,508 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
The West Virginia Department of Agriculture treated 1,302 high-value and high-visibility infested hemlocks on state and private lands. Japanese barberry removal continued at Cacapon State Park in Morgan County. The spotted lanternfly was detected in Berkeley County.

### Forest Stewardship
The West Virginia Stewardship Program reported 51 new or revised forest stewardship plans covering 7,907 acres, of which 7,308 acres were in Important Forest Areas per West Virginia’s Strategic Forest Action Plan. In collaboration with other forestry-related partners, 6,474 landowners were provided forestry technical assistance and 2,194 landowners participated in education programs. A Forest Stewardship Training Workshop was hosted by the West Virginia Division of Forestry and drew 125 attendees from various state agencies, including private forestry consultants. Unmanned Aircraft Systems are used for collection of aerial imagery in support of forest protection, forest management, and logging sediment control inspections. The Division of Forestry currently has a fleet of nine small unmanned aircraft and eight employees who have received their certification from the Federal Aviation Administration as fully qualified remote pilots.

### Urban and Community Forestry
West Virginia’s Urban Forestry program provided assistance to 71 communities, positively impacting 510,573 West Virginians. The grant program funded five community projects resulting in approximately $92,000 in urban forestry investments that include tree planting, maintenance and tree inventories, and management software for several Tree City USA communities. West Virginia University and Shepherd University achieved Tree Campus USA status for the first time. Potomac Edison and Mon Power, under the First Energy umbrella, were the first utilities in the state to achieve Tree Line USA prominence this year.
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