



State and Private Forestry Fact Sheet

Iowa 2021



Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

Program	FY 2020 Final
Community Forestry and Open Space	\$0
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	\$145,358
Forest Legacy	\$887,443
Forest Stewardship	\$140,800
Landscape Scale Restoration	\$501,038
State Fire Assistance	\$243,350
Urban and Community Forestry	\$198,391
Volunteer Fire Assistance	\$289,578
Total	\$2,405,958

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

- 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 2020 Accomplishments	Value
Population	3,046,355	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance	6,113
Acres of Forest Land	2,875,736	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	15,588
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	2,552,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	10,784
Number of NIPF Landowners	150,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted	145
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	State Fire Communities Assisted	155
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	947	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	217
Forest Based Employment	22,454	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	1,826,759
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	3	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance	15,822
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	3,018,917		

Program Highlights

Cooperative Fire Protection

Iowa Department of Natural Resources delivered 17 wildland fire and prescribed fire courses to 418 students and supported Federal wildland fire suppression efforts through the mobilization of firefighters and equipment. State Fire Assistance and Volunteer Fire Assistance supported 132 fire departments and 184 communities. Iowa acquired \$318,927 in property from the Department of Defense Fire Fighter Program and \$266,832 in property from the Federal Excess Personal Property program. The property goes to State and Volunteer Fire Department wildland fire programs.

Forest Health Protection

Emerald ash borer has been confirmed in 76 counties and is causing significant ash mortality in portions of the state. In August, Iowa was hit by a derecho or "land hurricane." The sustained winds of this severe weather event affected over 1.3 million acres of forest in east central Iowa and will have lasting impacts on forest structure and urban canopy. Oak health continues to be threatened by oak decline, oak wilt, and bur oak blight; however, defoliation from gypsy moth has been prevented so far through Slow the Spread Program activities that reduce the advance of this pest.

Forest Stewardship

Despite disruptions due to the COVID pandemic, Iowa's private lands efforts actually increased the number of landowners receiving one-on-one technical forestry assistance in 2020 by 9 percent and gained efficiencies by increasing efforts in designated Important Forest Resource/Priority Areas by 40 percent. A particular highlight this year was creating an updated priority lands spatial coverage for targeted forest stewardship program delivery in accordance with the new modernization effort, and also receiving a \$30,000 mini-grant from the USDA Forest Service to create a library of short videos showcasing specific forest management techniques and tools for landowners.

Urban and Community Forestry

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources provided assistance to 1,826,759 Iowans in 2020. The department has focused on assisting communities in preparing for emerald ash borer and other pests with community tree inventories, canopy cover assessments, master plans, and urban forest management plans. In addition to delivering urban forestry technical assistance and programs, Iowa has begun recovery efforts from the August derecho, the most costly thunderstorm disaster in U.S. history.

Contact Information



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