



State and Private Forestry Fact Sheet Massachusetts 2021



Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

Program	FY 2020 Final
Community Forestry and Open Space	\$0
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	\$221,902
Forest Legacy	\$0
Forest Stewardship	\$136,742
Landscape Scale Restoration	\$0
State Fire Assistance	\$494,303
Urban and Community Forestry	\$365,060
Volunteer Fire Assistance	\$88,553
Total	\$1,306,560

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

- Increase resistance and resilience of trees and forests to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change.
- Manage forest ecosystem health and biodiversity.
- Support and enhance forest economy.
- Maintain and increase urban tree canopy.
- Enhance the connection between forests and people.
- Increase land base of conserved forests (keep forests as forests).
- Advocate for a legal and institutional framework pertinent to the conservation and management of trees and forests.
- Maintain and enhance soil, water, and air resources.
- Support the role and use of prescribed fire in the landscape.
- Cultivate and support partnerships with forestry and conservation stakeholders.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments

Selected Facts	Value	FY 2020 Accomplishments	Value
Population	6,547,629	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance	2,723
Acres of Forest Land	2,984,347	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	20,653
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	2,179,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	13,320
Number of NIPF Landowners	293,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted	50
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	State Fire Communities Assisted	195
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	3,200,000	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	0
Number of Rural Fire Departments	220	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions	0
Cities and Towns	53	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	153
Forest Based Employment	20,647	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	4,491,902
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	6	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance	25,630
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	3,750,000		

Program Highlights

Cooperative Fire Protection

Massachusetts continues to have a robust wildland fire management program, with the most active prescribed fire program in New England. In 2020, Massachusetts received a Wildfire Risk Reduction grant to treat over 2 miles of fire break, develop burn plans for 300+ acres of State lands, deliver wildland fire and prescribed fire training to more than 150 students, and conduct 6 Firewise/Wildland Urban Interface assessments. The State acquired \$251,169 in property from the Department of Defense Fire Fighter Program and \$50,452 in property from the Federal Excess Personal Property program. The property is used to support the State and Volunteer Fire Department wildland fire programs.

Forest Health Protection

The Massachusetts Forest Stewardship Program reported 262 new or revised stewardship plans for 20,653 acres, of which 13,320 acres were in Important Forest Areas per Massachusetts's Strategic Forest Action Plan. About 1,372 landowners took part in educational programs. "Small Forest Landowner Outreach Initiative for Communities Located in the Urban-Rural Interface of the Quabbin to Cardigan Priority Landscape" is an ongoing landscape scale restoration project designed to empower landowners of small woodlots (10 to 25 acres) to engage in coordinated forest management, combat invasive species, and provide heat to neighbors in need.

Forest Stewardship

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Urban and Community Forestry

The Massachusetts Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) program provided \$182,323 via 17 grants to towns and organizations. Projects included training staff, developing UCF management plans, and completing tree planting and Heritage Tree Care Projects. The Legacy Tree program was also launched to identify and document the largest and most interesting known tree of each species, along with trees of historical and botanical significance. The purpose is to generate interest and awareness in valuable

community trees.

Contact Information



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