



# State and Private Forestry Fact Sheet

## Maine 2021



### Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

Program	FY 2020 Final
Community Forestry and Open Space	\$757,500
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	\$454,542
Forest Legacy	\$30,000
Forest Stewardship	\$185,100
Landscape Scale Restoration	\$370,846
State Fire Assistance	\$430,663
Urban and Community Forestry	\$279,033
Volunteer Fire Assistance	\$163,076
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,670,760</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

- Support a diverse, robust forest economy.
- Support active management of the forest land base.
- Address climate change and its impacts on Maine's forests.
- Maintain the capacity of the Maine Forest Service as an institution to serve the citizens of Maine.
- Maintain the health and resiliency of Maine's forests in the face of threats from biotic and abiotic agents.
- Promote outcome based forestry and streamline the regulatory framework.
- Predict future forest conditions and wood supplies.
- Conserve forests for clean drinking water supplies and healthy fisheries.
- Conserve forest biodiversity.
- Maintain healthy trees and woodlands in urban and community areas.
- Address ongoing erosion of federal support for Cooperative Forestry programs.

## Forest Facts and Accomplishments

<b>Selected Facts</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>FY 2020 Accomplishments</b>	<b>Value</b>
Population	1,328,361	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance	5,897
Acres of Forest Land	17,521,754	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	9,163
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	12,082,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	6,257
Number of NIPF Landowners	252,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted	95
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	State Fire Communities Assisted	270
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	1,766,000	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	0
Number of Rural Fire Departments	419	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions	0
Cities and Towns	22	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	174
Forest Based Employment	14,207	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	1,002,135
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	1	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance	5,309
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	10,450,000		

## Program Highlights

### **Cooperative Fire Protection**

Maine experienced more than 1,100 wildfires during the dry year of 2020, more than twice the 5-year average. The State has a robust drone/unmanned aircraft system program, as well as the largest rotor-wing aviation program in New England, which includes Federal Excess Personal Property (FEPP) program equipment. The State acquired \$87,360 in property from the Department of Defense Fire Fighter Program and \$2,197 in property from the FEPP program. The Maine Forest Rangers have completed 777 home wildfire risk assessments since 2019 and have a strong presence on social media, with over 5,700 followers on Twitter and over 49,000 likes on Facebook.

### **Forest Health Protection**

In FY 2020, the Maine Forest Stewardship Program (known locally as the "Be Woods Wise"/WoodsWISE Incentives Program) developed 98 new or continuing forest stewardship plans (including CAP-106 plans funded through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program), covering 9,163 acres, of which 6,257 acres were in spatially defined Important Forest Areas. About 2,256 woodland owners took part in educational programs offered by the Maine Forest Service that promote activities contributing to the sound, long-term management of Maine's forest resources. Maine Forest Service personnel assisted 3,641 individuals with forest stewardship. Maine has 1,350 woodland owners with Forest Stewardship Plans, comprising nearly 15,000 acres.

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### **Urban and Community Forestry**

Maine Project Canopy funded 17 grant projects. Belfast's GreenStreets! committee planted trees on several gateways to make these entries to the city more pedestrian-friendly and aesthetically pleasing. They also completed a comprehensive street tree inventory. The local conservation district and volunteers

in Houlton received a grant to start a comprehensive in-town inventory. Cumberland and 7 Lakes Alliance Land Trust are developing a town forest stewardship plan to address climate change.

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## Contact Information



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