



State and Private Forestry Fact Sheet

New Jersey 2021



Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

| Program | FY 2020 Final |
|--|--------------------|
| Community Forestry and Open Space | \$0 |
| Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management | \$83,756 |
| Forest Legacy | \$0 |
| Forest Stewardship | \$95,840 |
| Landscape Scale Restoration | \$0 |
| State Fire Assistance | \$920,266 |
| Urban and Community Forestry | \$498,188 |
| Volunteer Fire Assistance | \$257,029 |
| Total | \$1,855,079 |

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

- Forest function.
- Forest restoration--species of concern.
- Forest management plans (scalable management).
- Inventory.
- Forest products (utilization and markets).
- Resiliency.
- Damage causing agents.
- Climate.
- Fragmentation/habitat restoration.
- Biodiversity.
- Recreation.
- Education, communication, and outreach.
- Data: Data driven strategic planning and management.
- Data gaps.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments

| Selected Facts | Value | FY 2020 Accomplishments | Value |
|---|--------------|--|--------------|
| Population | 8,791,894 | Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance | 15,324 |
| Acres of Forest Land | 1,988,518 | Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans | 13,683 |
| Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land | 1,322,000 | Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans | 3,366 |
| Number of NIPF Landowners | 122,000 | Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted | 100 |
| Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection | 0 | State Fire Communities Assisted | 143 |
| Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection | 3,250,000 | Coop Forest Health Acres Protected | 0 |
| Number of Rural Fire Departments | 353 | Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions | 0 |
| Cities and Towns | 324 | Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance | 410 |
| Forest Based Employment | 24,283 | Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance | 7,740,065 |
| Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank) | 7 | Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance | 7,389 |
| State Forestry Budget (All Sources) | 6,363,938 | | |

Program Highlights

Cooperative Fire Protection

New Jersey was awarded a competitive State Fire Assistance grant to build prescribed fire capacity and treat 600 acres in 12 separate fuels reduction projects, provide sub-grants to fire-adapted communities to support their Community Wildfire Protection Plans, and to develop a "Not All Fire Is Bad" educational booklet for elementary-aged children. An additional grant will treat 12,000 acres with prescribed fire in the Pine Barrens in support of a national initiative to reduce fire risk in nationally identified firesheds. The State acquired \$20,500 of equipment through the Federal Excess Personal Property program.

Forest Health Protection

The New Jersey Department of Forestry conducted monitoring activities for new and established invasive species. No introductions of oak wilt or thousand cankers disease were found, but monitoring did identify the first occurrence of beech leaf disease found in New Jersey. Suppression activities continued for emerald ash borer (mainly biocontrol releases) and spotted lanternfly (tree of heaven removal). Aerial surveys found relatively low amounts of tree damage, with gypsy moth defoliation on 1,003 acres and southern pine beetle-caused mortality on 1,472 acres. Finally, the oak shothole leafminer was found damaging oak foliage in seven counties.

Forest Stewardship

The New Jersey Forest Service will continue training woodland owners, local tax assessors, and the forestry community on the benefits of participating in the Forest Stewardship program in 2021. In 2020, the COVID pandemic made it challenging to offer training. However, with assistance from the New Jersey Forestry Association, the Backyard Forestry in 90 Minutes training went virtual with much success and participation by many woodland owners and various stakeholders. Backyard Forestry, which occurs virtually the third Thursday of each month, discusses the various disciplines needed for natural resource management, such as forest inventory, dendrology, wildlife management, water quality, utilization and marketing, damage-causing agents, and rules and regulations.

Urban and Community Forestry

New Jersey's Urban and Community Forestry program continued to provide grants to communities in FY 2020, with over \$103,000 in Federal funding leveraged by an additional \$327,000 in State and local investment. The grants ranged from \$3,000 to \$30,000 for projects including urban and community forest management plan development, tree inventory, canopy assessment, ash surveys, and tree planting. Despite the challenges associated with the COVID pandemic, volunteers contributed over 7,300 hours of

service to urban and community forestry in New Jersey, gaining knowledge and skills to support their local programs and services as shade tree board representatives to advise and carry out urban and community forestry activities in their hometowns.

Contact Information



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