



State and Private Forestry Fact Sheet

New York 2021



Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

Program	FY 2020 Final
Community Forestry and Open Space	\$0
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	\$761,276
Forest Legacy	\$30,000
Forest Stewardship	\$250,355
Landscape Scale Restoration	\$372,277
State Fire Assistance	\$1,667,752
Urban and Community Forestry	\$966,200
Volunteer Fire Assistance	\$583,180
Total	\$4,631,040

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

- Keep New York's forests as forests.
- Keep New York's forests healthy.
- Ensure forests benefit humans and all living creatures.
- Appreciate, support, and protect New York's forests.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments

Selected Facts	Value	FY 2020 Accomplishments	Value
Population	19,378,102	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance	1,357
Acres of Forest Land	18,622,212	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	36,722
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	13,710,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	12,193
Number of NIPF Landowners	686,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted	372
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	State Fire Communities Assisted	1,074
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	23,132,960	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	404
Number of Rural Fire Departments	1,741	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions	0
Cities and Towns	617	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	212
Forest Based Employment	46,958	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	14,015,548
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	5	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance	47,209
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	18,000,000		

Program Highlights

Chesapeake Bay Initiative

New York increased incentives for agricultural producers and expanded assistance for maintenance of riparian buffers through the Comprehensive Riparian Buffer Establishment in the Susquehanna River Basin program. Funding was allocated for USDA Farm Service Agency's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) reenrollment activities; assessment and planning of new riparian buffer sites; evaluation and maintenance of existing buffer sites; and piloting a new non-CREP incentive program focused on implementation of riparian buffers on cropland acres. New York continues to address forestry goals that are part of the Chesapeake Bay Program and State Watershed Implementation Plans and worked on a Chesapeake Bay Shared Stewardship Agreement signed by State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service Chief in October 2020.

Cooperative Fire Protection

The New York fire program experienced several leadership changes over the past year. A current project includes redefining their fire danger rating zones to more inclusively reflect topography, climate, and vegetation. They also sent several 10-person modules to support fire operations in the western United States during the record-setting wildfire year. In New York, the Albany Pine Bush continues to use Wildfire Risk Reduction grant funding to restore the fire-adapted ecosystems just outside the State capital.

Forest Health Protection

The New York Forest Stewardship Program reported 183 new or revised stewardship plans covering 36,722 acres, of which 12,193 acres were in Important Forest Areas per New York's Strategic Forest Action Plan. In addition, 1,309 landowners were provided forestry technical assistance and 48 landowners participated in education programs. New York initiated work on a 2017 landscape scale restoration grant project to help forest landowner neighbors of State-owned forest management lands undertake forest management activities that expand or complement activities underway by State forest managers.

Forest Stewardship

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Urban and Community Forestry

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) developed and conducted multiple sessions for municipal staff on proper tree pruning techniques and chainsaw safety after this was identified as an urgent training need. The New York Urban and Community Forestry program awarded \$107,430 in grants to 22 partners. The New York State Urban Forestry Council provided \$1,000 tree planting grants to 20 communities to reward those that had Tree City certification for five consecutive years. In response to the COVID pandemic, New York State DEC staff and Regional ReLeaf committees offered virtual education opportunities, including a webinar on gypsy moth defoliation, which had 253 attendees.

Contact Information



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