State and Private Forestry Fact Sheet
New York 2021

Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

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

*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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fact</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>19,378,102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres of Forest Land</td>
<td>18,622,212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land</td>
<td>13,710,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of NIPF Landowners</td>
<td>686,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection</td>
<td>23,132,960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Rural Fire Departments</td>
<td>1,741</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cities and Towns</td>
<td>617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Based Employment</td>
<td>46,958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Forestry Budget (All Sources)</td>
<td>18,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FY 2020 Accomplishments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accomplishment</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance</td>
<td>1,357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans</td>
<td>36,722</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans</td>
<td>12,193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted</td>
<td>372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Fire Communities Assisted</td>
<td>1,074</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coop Forest Health Acres Protected</td>
<td>404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance</td>
<td>212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance</td>
<td>14,015,548</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance</td>
<td>47,209</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**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**

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.
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.

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