



# State and Private Forestry Fact Sheet

## Vermont 2021



### Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

Program	FY 2020 Final
Community Forestry and Open Space	\$387,250
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	\$1,735,603
Forest Legacy	\$66,431
Forest Stewardship	\$114,546
Landscape Scale Restoration	\$157,295
State Fire Assistance	\$148,450
Urban and Community Forestry	\$265,179
Volunteer Fire Assistance	\$93,450
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,968,204</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

- Conserve native biological diversity across all landscapes.
- Maintain and enhance forest ecosystem health and ecological productivity.
- Maintain and enhance forest contribution to ecosystem services.
- Maintain and enhance an ethic of respect for the land, sustainable use, and exemplary management.
- Legal, institutional, and economic framework in place for forest conservation and sustainability.

### Forest Facts and Accomplishments

<b>Selected Facts</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>FY 2020 Accomplishments</b>	<b>Value</b>
Population	625,741	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance	3,234
Acres of Forest Land	4,523,089	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	31,359
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	3,612,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	33,889
Number of NIPF Landowners	88,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted	124
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	State Fire Communities Assisted	18
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	4,700,000	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	630
Number of Rural Fire Departments	222	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions	5,148
Cities and Towns	46	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	100
Forest Based Employment	5,332	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	432,663
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	2	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance	12,509
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	3,768,904		

## Program Highlights

### **Cooperative Fire Protection**

The year 2020 saw drought conditions across most of Vermont, with several small but deep-burning fires during the summer months. Vermont continues to support the town forest fire warden program, including providing training and conducting a survey to determine customer needs. Vermont is also expanding its use of technology, including the VT-ALERT system for notifying town forest fire wardens, improving the warden database, and online fire reporting. Vermont will host the 2021 State Fire Supervisor Committee meeting, which was canceled in 2020 due to COVID.

### **Forest Health Protection**

The Vermont Forest Stewardship Program reported 266 new or revised stewardship plans for 31,359 acres, all of which were in Important Forest Areas per Vermont's Strategic Forest Action Plan. In 2020, 2,840 landowners participated in education programs and several landscape scale restoration projects, including one with the Vermont Natural Resources Council titled "Training Real Estate and Resource Professionals to Keep Forests as Forests," which targets professionals who work with private landowners making decisions about their woodlands.

### **Forest Legacy**

The Vermont Forest Legacy Program continued with forest land protection on three multi-tract projects: Hunger Mountain Headwater, Worcester Woods, and Windham Region. The State acquired seven tracts for an additional 5,148 acres using \$4,334,665 in Forest Legacy Program funding on these three projects. Three of the seven acquired tracts completed the Windham Region project in southern Vermont. The State is pursuing acquisition activities for additional tracts to complete the other two projects.

### **Forest Stewardship**

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### **Urban and Community Forestry**

Vermont Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) provided technical or educational assistance on emerald ash borer to 45 municipalities. Vermont UCF created a video on how to assemble traps and coordinated 44 volunteers who monitored 116 traps in 50 towns. A grant from the USDA Forest Service enabled

Vermont UCF to develop a sub-grant program to support municipal ash tree removals, innovative use of harvested ash wood, and ash tree management. The State offered an online Backyard Woods course free of charge to 100 participants. Through the Community Canopy Program, Vermont UCF worked with two communities to provide 300 free trees to residents to strategically plant for energy-savings and other benefits.

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## Contact Information



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