



# State and Private Forestry Fact Sheet

## Wisconsin 2021



### Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

Program	FY 2020 Final
Community Forestry and Open Space	\$187,000
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	\$232,460
Forest Legacy	\$20,000
Forest Stewardship	\$280,200
Landscape Scale Restoration	\$368,967
State Fire Assistance	\$1,200,207
Urban and Community Forestry	\$491,500
Volunteer Fire Assistance	\$339,984
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,120,318</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

- Forest resources and ecosystems.
- Climate change.
- Forest socioeconomics.
- Forest ownership.

### Forest Facts and Accomplishments

<b>Selected Facts</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>FY 2020 Accomplishments</b>	<b>Value</b>
Population	5,686,986	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance	10,738
Acres of Forest Land	16,959,863	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	105,013
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	10,438,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	35,908
Number of NIPF Landowners	362,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted	400
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	State Fire Communities Assisted	62
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	31,299,000	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	142,166
Number of Rural Fire Departments	947	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions	0
Cities and Towns	594	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	246
Forest Based Employment	74,548	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	3,558,194
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	1	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance	1,255
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	29,004,400		

## Program Highlights

### **Cooperative Fire Protection**

Wisconsin received \$600,000 in competitive funding to address multiple issues. Its "Building Partner Capacity" Wildfire Risk Reduction (WRR) grant helped increase awareness of wildfire risk, improve wildfire preparedness at multiple levels, and reduce structure ignitability in communities. The State's second WRR grant, "Risk Reduction Across Wisconsin's Fire Landscapes," targeted wildfire risk reduction through vegetation management in the state's four highest-risk areas. A Cross-Boundary grant was awarded for fuels reduction and storm clean-up on non-Federal lands near national forests.

### **Forest Health Protection**

Weather impacts to tree health continued in 2020, including balsam fir top kill caused by fluctuating temperature extremes during late winter, death of trees in areas with rising water tables, and wind damage that occurred in northern Wisconsin in both 2019 and 2020. Emerald ash borer has been confirmed in 58 of 72 counties. In southeastern and southwestern parts of the state where ash mortality is common, current actions include introduction of biocontrol agents, removal of hazard trees, and planting of replacement trees. Additional concerns are northward expansion of oak wilt, emerging white pine pest problems, and increasing gypsy moth populations.

### **Forest Stewardship**

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), in cooperation with many partners in Wisconsin's forestry community, is more than one-third of the way toward reaching their 5-year goal to connect 20,000 new non-industrial private forest landowners with a resource professional to move 1 million acres toward sustainable forestry. Since July 1, 2018, 7,670 property visits with previously unengaged woodland owners have been completed by either WDNR service foresters or private sector consulting foresters who participate in Wisconsin's Cooperating Forester program. Over 100,000 landowners were engaged through direct mail, Facebook, workshops, and e-newsletters. WDNR has also launched a powerful new tool, the Private Forest Landowner Database, which allows for summary of the forestry community's engagement of landowners and the respective contributions of WDNR and partners in moving landowners along a continuum toward sustainable forestry.

### **Great Lakes Restoration Initiative**

Five projects from local government and non-government organizations in Wisconsin received Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding through the USDA Forest Service's 2020 competitive process. Over \$900,000 in new funding will continue past efforts to mitigate tree canopy loss from emerald ash borer and improve the health and resilience of Wisconsin's coastal and riparian forests. Several projects accomplish their work through employment and job training programs such as Milwaukee Community

Service Corps, Great Lakes Community Conservation Corps, or AmeriCorps.

### **Urban and Community Forestry**

Federal funding supported the two-day Community Tree Management Institute (CTMI) Graduate Workshop. CTMI is specifically designed for municipal staff with tree management responsibilities but without a strong background in urban forestry. It helps communities establish and develop their local urban forestry programs. With over 20 municipalities represented at the session, students worked indoors and outdoors and received training on funding opportunities, risk tree assessment, insect and disease diagnosis, and species and site selection.

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### **Contact Information**



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