



Delaware



State & Private Forestry Fact Sheet

Investment in State's Cooperative Programs:

Program	FY 2006 Final	FY 2007 Estimate
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	149,000	70,000
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management - National Fire Plan	0	0
Forest Land Enhancement	19,639	0
Forest Legacy	2,000,000	30,000
Forest Stewardship	100,100	94,400
State Fire Assistance	54,202	53,256
State Fire Assistance - National Fire Plan	64,278	54,947
Urban and Community Forestry	200,000	200,000
Volunteer Fire Assistance	17,000	17,000
Volunteer Fire Assistance - National Fire Plan	35,567	15,567
Total	2,639,786	535,170

The cooperative programs are administered and implemented through a partnership between the State of Delaware, the USDA Forest Service and many other private and government entities. These programs promote the health and productivity of Delaware forest lands and rural economies. Emphasis focuses on timber and other forest products, wildlife, water resources, rural economies and conservation practices. The goal is to maintain and improve the health of Delaware urban and rural forests and related economies. These programs:

- Increase cost effectiveness through the use of partnerships in delivery,
- Increase values through sustained productivity of forests, and
- Are voluntary, and use non-regulatory approaches.

Key Issues:

- Permanent loss of forestland combined with forest fragmentation and parcelization
- Maintaining a sufficient forest base to sustain the forest products industry, wildlife habitat, water protection, etc
- Public awareness and understanding of forests and forest management
- Improving the management of rural and urban forests

Forest Facts and Accomplishments:

Selected Facts		FY2006 Accomplishments	
Population	783,600	Stewardship Plans Prepared (current year) (Each)	31
Acres of Forest Land	383,000	Acres Under Stewardship Plans (current year) (Acres)	1,405
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	325,000	Acres Under Stewardship Plans (all years) (Acres)	49,418
Number of NIPF Landowners	17,300	Acres of Multi-resource Practices Implemented on NIPF (Acres)	764
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted (Each)	35
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	557,000	State Fire Communities Assisted (Each)	40
Number of Rural Fire Departments	54	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected (Acres)	0
Number of Cities And Towns	75	Forest Legacy Project Acquisition (Acres)	0
Forest Based Employment	3,149	Urban Forestry - Participating Communities (Each)	72
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	4	Urban Forestry - Volunteer Assistance (Days)	75
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	1,629,300		

Program Highlights:

Forest Health Protection

The Delaware Forest Service, in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service Northeastern Area, State and Private Forestry; and the University of Delaware; surveyed for bacterial leaf scorch (BLS), a fatal disease of red oaks caused by *Xylella fastidiosa*. BLS was found in urban locales statewide. BLS was also detected in traditional forest settings at two survey sites in New Castle County. A response plan will be formulated in 2007.

Cooperative Fire Protection

With National Fire Plan Funds, the Delaware Forest Service awarded competitive grants that resulted in the treatment of 100 acres of hazardous fuels on state and private lands, significantly reducing the threat of wildfire to 4 adjacent high risk wildland urban interface communities. Thirty-five volunteer fire departments received grants to help with equipment and training needs.

Urban and Community Forestry

The Urban and Community Forestry program reviewed subdivision plans for 34 proposed development projects in New Castle County, 93 proposed developments in Kent County, and

71 forest buffer ordinances in Sussex County, providing technical recommendations to developers for preserving and mitigating natural resources. In addition, the program continued to work with the State Office of Planning and other State agencies to implement the Preliminary Land Use Service (PLUS) Process, reviewed 178 projects to support the PLUS Process, and provided more than 800 hours of technical service.

Conservation Education

The Delaware Forest Service manages two education centers that hosted 915 students from 11 schools in 2006, teaching students about forest ecology, tree identification, and invasive species. The Delaware Fire Prevention Program joined Smokey Bear to deliver a fire prevention message to 7,500 first grade students from 95 elementary schools. Delaware Project Learning Tree conducted 10 workshops, training 38 facilitators and 140 formal and non-formal educators.

Forest Stewardship

Workshops based on the Back Yard Woods publication, targeting landowners who own fewer than 10 acres, were presented in two counties. Workshops were held on three successive Tuesday nights in both counties. Attendees were enthusiastic and the programs were well received. Another series of workshops is scheduled for early 2007.

For more information contact:



Delaware Department of Agriculture

E Austin Short, III
Forest Service
2320 South DuPont Highway
Dover, DE 19901-5515
Ph: 302-698-4548
Fax: 302-697-6245
Email: austin.short@state.de.us

Northeastern Area S&PF

Kathryn P. Maloney
USDA Forest Service
11 Campus Blvd., Suite 200
Newtown Square, PA 19073
Ph: 610-557-4103
Fax: 610-557-4177
Email: kmaloney@fs.fed.us

United
States
Department
of
Agriculture

Last Updated: February 2, 2007