



Massachusetts



State & Private Forestry Fact Sheet

Investment in State's Cooperative Programs:

Program	FY 2006 Final	FY 2007 Estimate
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	323,450	58,300
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management - National Fire Plan	0	0
Forest Land Enhancement	74,718	0
Forest Legacy	2,540,500	0
Forest Stewardship	311,100	171,490
State Fire Assistance	62,988	38,048
State Fire Assistance - National Fire Plan	404,816	109,523
Urban and Community Forestry	208,559	231,000
Volunteer Fire Assistance	39,000	39,000
Volunteer Fire Assistance - National Fire Plan	33,961	33,961
Total	3,999,092	681,322

The cooperative programs are administered and implemented through a partnership between the State of Massachusetts, the USDA Forest Service and many other private and government entities. These programs promote the health and productivity of Massachusetts 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 Massachusetts 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:

- Changes in land use including fragmentation
- Forest health and management on private lands
- Providing forestry services to our most urban communities
- Urban-rural fire interface
- Provide information, inventory, and control of invasive species

Forest Facts and Accomplishments:

Selected Facts		FY2006 Accomplishments	
Population	6,349,097	Stewardship Plans Prepared (current year) (Each)	256
Acres of Forest Land	3,126,000	Acres Under Stewardship Plans (current year) (Acres)	16,846
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	2,369,000	Acres Under Stewardship Plans (all years) (Acres)	312,691
Number of NIPF Landowners	212,800	Acres of Multi-resource Practices Implemented on NIPF (Acres)	3,843
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted (Each)	50
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	3,200,000	State Fire Communities Assisted (Each)	70
Number of Rural Fire Departments	220	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected (Acres)	0
Number of Cities And Towns	235	Forest Legacy Project Acquisition (Acres)	1,166
Forest Based Employment	24,050	Urban Forestry - Participating Communities (Each)	288
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	7	Urban Forestry - Volunteer Assistance (Days)	1,516
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	3,750,000		

Program Highlights:

Forest Health Protection

With National Fire Plan funds, the Bureau of Forest Fire Control used prescribed fire and mechanical means to reduce hazardous fuels on 750 acres of state and private lands, significantly reducing the threat of wildfire to 24 high risk wildland interface communities. Fifty volunteer fire departments received grants to help with equipment and training needs.

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Forest Legacy

Massachusetts completed a 665-acre conservation easement around the Camp Hi Rock YMCA camp, which will remain forested for campers, wildlife, and watershed protection.

Urban and Community Forestry

The Department of Conservation and Recreation awarded an Urban and Community Forestry grant to the Friends of WFCR in Amherst to develop a 10-part radio series on urban and community forestry. The series, which will air on the WFCR 88.5 FM weekly natural history program, Field Notes, reaches about 100,000 listeners in western Massachusetts, southern Vermont, New Hampshire, and Connecticut.

Conservation Education

The “Find Yourself in a State Park” program connects under-represented audiences with the Commonwealth’s forests and parks. Interpretive and recreational programs help to enhance lives and build appreciation about the importance of natural, cultural, and forest resource management.

Forest Stewardship

The Department of Conservation and Recreation contracted with the SmartWood Program of the Rainforest Alliance to conduct a forest management chain of custody certification assessment—tracking wood from the forest to the finished product to verify sustainable practices. Focusing on private forest lands held by eligible, willing landowners enrolled in the current use and Forest Stewardship programs, the effort could potentially become the largest group of certified private lands in the world.

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Last Updated: January 25, 2007