



WEST VIRGINIA



State & Private Forestry Fact Sheet

Investment in State's Cooperative Programs:

Programs	FY 2003 Final SPF	FY 2003 Final NFP	FY 2004 Estimate SPF	FY 2004 Estimate NFP
Coop Forest Health Management	541,310	52,592	313,715	
State Fire Assistance	104,674	506,512	158,734	415,966
Volunteer Fire Assistance	50,965	60,495	54,095	60,117
Forest Stewardship Program	652,612		344,000	
Stewardship Incentives				
Forest Legacy Program	10,000		19,000	
Urban and Community Forestry	382,263		229,500	
Economic Action Programs	333,228	15,000	300,000	
PNW Assistance Program				
Forest Resource Information and Analysis				
Forest Land Enhancement Program	447,500			
TOTAL	\$2,522,552	\$634,599	\$4,119,044	\$476,083

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

Key issues which State and federal programs will address together in the next few years include:

- Reduce acreage of forestland burned due to arson and mine break fires
- Educate the public and especially NIPF landowners about forestry and conservation issues
- Improve the State's economy by attracting and improving secondary forest product manufacturing
- Develop a better understanding of the relationship between forest practices and water quality
- Inability to recruit professional foresters for higher management positions

Forest Facts and 2003 Accomplishments

SELECTED FACTS		FY 2003 ACCOMPLISHMENTS	
Population	1,801,873	Stewardship Plans Prepared (current year)	135
Acres of Forest Land	12,108,000	Acres Under Stewardship Plans (current year)	7,388
Acres of NonIndustrial Private Forest Land	9,701,000	Acres Under Stewardship Plans (all years)	584,032
Number of NIPF Landowners	260,000	Multi-resource practices implemented on NIPF - Acres	1,847
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection		Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted SPF NFP	45
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	12,000,000	State Fire – Communities Assisted SPF NFP	689
Number of Rural Fire Departments	427	Coop Forest Health – Acres Protected SPF NFP	122,731
Number of Cities and Towns	172	Coop Forest Health – Acres Surveyed SPF NFP	13,948,265
Forest Based Employment	11,389	Forest Legacy Project Acquisition - Acres	
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	3	Urban Forestry-Participating communities	53
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	\$8,007,548	Urban Forestry –Volunteer Assistance Generated-Days	639
		EAP-Communitites working under broad-based local strategic plans	0
		PNW-Communities working under broad-based local strategic	0

Program Highlights:

Urban and Community Forestry:

Volunteers from U.S. Cellular's Seeking Action and Volunteerism for the Environment Program (SAVE), cooperating with the Division of Forestry, Division of Highways, and National Tree Trust, planted 26 trees at a major rest area along I-79 near Bridgeport. The trees will afford much needed shade and aesthetic enhancements to this high-profile site.

Cooperative Fire Protection:

State Fire Assistance funds provided training for 150 firefighters, 650 fire prevention activities, personal protective, communications, and suppression equipment, Firewise programs, hazardous fuels reduction, and 21 community mitigation / fire planning projects and management plans. Volunteer Fire Departments have \$5.7 million in Federal Excess Property on loan. Volunteer Fire Assistance funds provided training and lightweight personal protective Equipment to 45 VFD's.

Landowner Assistance:

More than 7,300 new Stewardship Program acres were identified and qualified for cost-share practices with the startup of the new Forest Land Enhancement Program.

Forest Health Protection:

The West Virginia Department of Agriculture treated more than 4,000 acres to suppress gypsy moths. Populations are down throughout the State. Emerald ash borer and Sudden Oak Death special surveys were conducted and fortunately neither of these potentially devastating pests was discovered.

Economic Action Programs:

The Appalachian Hardwood Center measured logging residues in 14 southern West Virginia counties as a possible source of raw material for three engineered wood product facilities. Estimates showed nearly 333,000 tons of logging residues worth \$6.7 million are left in southern West Virginia forests each year, enough to run one facility for about 167 days.

Forest Legacy Program:

The state completed the Assessment of Need for the Program, establishing four Forest Legacy Areas.

For more information contact:

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