



# Massachusetts Forest Resource Fact Sheet

Fiscal Year 2004

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## Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005 President's Budget	Difference between FY 2005 - 2004 + or (-)
Forest Health Management	\$188,097	\$509,360	\$99,729	(\$409,631)
Cooperative Fire Protection	\$663,144	\$440,130	\$180,152	(\$259,978)
Cooperative Forestry	\$675,970	\$745,050	\$381,675	(\$363,375)
Forest Legacy Program	\$1,770,000	\$1,670,000	\$2,535,747	\$865,747
	<b>\$3,297,211</b>	<b>\$3,364,540</b>	<b>\$3,197,303</b>	<b>(\$167,237)</b>

## Key Issues

- Forester licensing
- Urban-rural fire interface
- Biodiversity on State lands
- Meeting Green Certification conditions on state lands
- Forest Management and Forest Health on private lands

## Forest Facts and 2003 Accomplishments

### Selected Facts

Population (2000 Census)	<b>6,427,801</b>
Acres of Forest Land	<b>3,126,000</b>
Acres of Non-Industrial Private Forest Land	<b>2,369,000</b>
Number of NIPF Landowners (Birch 1996)	<b>212,800</b>
Total Acres of Land Under State Fire Protection	<b>3,200,000</b>
Number of Rural Fire Departments	<b>201</b>
Number of Cities and Towns (Population > 1000)	<b>384</b>
Forest Based Employment (1998)	<b>27,589</b>
Forest Based Earnings (1998)	<b>\$1,258,111,000</b>
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	<b>6</b>
State Forestry Budget	<b>\$3,750,000</b>

### Selected Accomplishments

Stewardship Plans Prepared (current year)	<b>226</b>
Acres Under Stewardship Plans (current year)	<b>16,992</b>
Acres Under Stewardship Plans (all years)	<b>264,347</b>
Technical Assists to Private Landowners	<b>0</b>
Rural Fire Departments Assisted	<b>67</b>
Communities Assisted - State Fire Assistance	<b>52</b>
Acres Surveyed for Forest Health	<b>18,106,131</b>
Acres Protected from Insect and Disease Damage	<b>0</b>
Cities and Urban Areas Assisted	<b>232</b>
Economic Action Grants to Rural Areas	
Acres Protected by Legacy (all years)	<b>2,961</b>

## Program Highlights

### Urban and Community Forestry

Community action foresters dedicated to building volunteerism and partnerships helped cities, towns, and neighborhoods meet their urban and community forestry goals. Projects included regional assessments, youth employment programs, citizen training, and community planting programs.

### Cooperative Fire Protection

State Fire Assistance funds helped support training for 300 wildland firefighters, personal protection, communications, and water handling equipment, and 24 Prevention/Risk assessments. Hazardous fuels treatments were completed on 400 acres near communities at risk. Volunteer Fire Departments received more than \$526,000 in Federal Excess Property. Funds went toward wildland fire training, lightweight Personal Protective Equipment, and dry hydrant installation in 67 communities.

### Forest Stewardship

The State used a set of criteria to target towns and set priorities for stewardship funding. The State also completed its Priority Plan and served on the Northeastern Area Stewardship Initiative, a pilot project that uses Geographic Information System (GIS) technology to identify priority open space for stewardship investment.

### Forest Health Management

Work continues against exotic forest pests, including Asian longhorned beetle research and release of hemlock woolly adelgid predators. Beyond its borders, the State helped national management of the Forest Health Monitoring Program and provided survey assistance for the emerald ash borer infestation in the Midwest.

### Economic Action

Massachusetts was a partner in the Southern New England Forest Consortium to promote the importance of the region's forests. Workshops on Costs of Community Services, Fostering Forest Conservation in Southern New England Communities, and See the Forest demonstrated the positive net financial contribution of open space and forests.

### Forest Legacy Program

The Assessment of Need was modified to include additional lands in the Forest Legacy Areas, underscoring the program's popularity. Three land protection projects were completed, totaling 493 acres.



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