



Maryland 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	\$814,199	\$593,447	\$342,166	(\$251,281)
Cooperative Fire Protection	\$380,616	\$448,743	\$232,544	(\$216,199)
Cooperative Forestry	\$1,181,725	\$1,581,940	\$977,002	(\$604,938)
Forest Legacy Program	\$338,000	\$1,068,000	\$1,570,417	\$502,417
	\$2,714,540	\$3,692,130	\$3,122,129	(\$570,001)

Key Issues

- Forest fragmentation and parcelization: local land use decisions, forest sustainability in a rapidly changing environment
- Protection, restoration and management of municipal water supply watersheds
- Forest certification of state and private forestlands and how to handle the data management and monitoring requirements
- Adequate staffing for Fire, Stewardship and Urban Forestry programs
- Using trees for water quality and ozone non-attainment mitigation

Forest Facts and 2003 Accomplishments

Selected Facts

Population (2000 Census)	5,458,137
Acres of Forest Land	2,566,000
Acres of Non-Industrial Private Forest Land	1,869,000
Number of NIPF Landowners (Birch 1996)	130,600
Total Acres of Land Under State Fire Protection	3,200,000
Number of Rural Fire Departments	302
Number of Cities and Towns (Population > 1000)	264
Forest Based Employment (1998)	14,797
Forest Based Earnings (1998)	\$581,463,000
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	6
State Forestry Budget	\$9,500,000

Selected Accomplishments

Stewardship Plans Prepared (current year)	683
Acres Under Stewardship Plans (current year)	16,028
Acres Under Stewardship Plans (all years)	288,617
Technical Assists to Private Landowners	2,842
Rural Fire Departments Assisted	92
Communities Assisted - State Fire Assistance	318
Acres Surveyed for Forest Health	1,152,560
Acres Protected from Insect and Disease Damage	19,766
Cities and Urban Areas Assisted	353
Economic Action Grants to Rural Areas	1
Acres Protected by Legacy (all years)	966

Program Highlights

Urban and Community Forestry

The DNR Forest Service, Baltimore, and the Parks and People Foundation completed a Strategic Urban Forest Assessment for Baltimore; more than 2,000 trees were planted in 2002-03. The DNR Forest Service also helped complete a hemlock woolly adelgid assessment in Cunningham Falls State Park, which included tree care specifications, GIS maps, and a list of trees to be pruned or removed.

Cooperative Fire Protection

State Fire Assistance funds helped support a statewide fire management plan, fire prevention, community mitigation, and fire planning projects, installation of 97 dry hydrants, and training for 400 wildland firefighters. Volunteer Fire Assistance helped supply personal protection and communications equipment, convert Federal Excess Property to firefighting use, and establish dependable water supplies in 100 rural high-risk communities.

Forest Stewardship

Forest operations on the 58,000-acre Chesapeake Forest will be certified soon. The Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) and the Forest Stewardship Council completed certification audits on a major portion of the forest this summer. Final notification is expected soon, ushering in a new era of forest management in Maryland.

Forest Health Management

The Maryland Department of Agriculture treated more than 14,000 acres to suppress gypsy moths, mostly in eastern Maryland. Beech bark disease was detected for the first time; several infected trees were discovered in Garrett County in western Maryland.

Economic Action

The Master Logger Program teaches the State's 470 logging contractors how to meet environmental, safety, aesthetic, and economic goals while fulfilling landowner objectives. Loggers study best management practices, aesthetics, safety, first aid, and forest management. The leading Worker's Compensation insurer reduced logger rates by 20 percent and sawmill rates by 10 percent for program graduates.

Forest Legacy Program

A recently completed forestland assessment indicates the need for additional Forest Legacy Areas to protect forests threatened by conversion.



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