



# New Jersey 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	\$1,091,477	\$439,000	\$50,264	(\$388,736)
Cooperative Fire Protection	\$1,379,930	\$1,263,174	\$485,988	(\$777,186)
Cooperative Forestry	\$851,170	\$605,100	\$320,398	(\$284,702)
Forest Legacy Program	\$3,021,000	\$4,880,000	\$7,577,611	\$2,697,611
	<b>\$6,343,577</b>	<b>\$7,187,274</b>	<b>\$8,434,261</b>	<b>\$1,246,987</b>

## Key Issues

- Wildland/urban interface fire protection
- Air and water quality issues related to forestry practices
- Forest fragmentation, regulation, and restricted use designations
- Hemlock Woolly Adelgid and Bacterial Leaf Scorch
- Lack of public understanding about forestry and forest health

## Forest Facts and 2003 Accomplishments

### Selected Facts

Population (2000 Census)	<b>8,590,300</b>
Acres of Forest Land	<b>2,132,000</b>
Acres of Non-Industrial Private Forest Land	<b>1,322,000</b>
Number of NIPF Landowners (Birch 1996)	<b>88,700</b>
Total Acres of Land Under State Fire Protection	<b>3,250,000</b>
Number of Rural Fire Departments	<b>652</b>
Number of Cities and Towns (Population > 1000)	<b>573</b>
Forest Based Employment (1998)	<b>33,862</b>
Forest Based Earnings (1998)	<b>\$1,069,272,000</b>
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	<b>8</b>
State Forestry Budget	<b>\$6,363,938</b>

### Selected Accomplishments

Stewardship Plans Prepared (current year)	<b>23</b>
Acres Under Stewardship Plans (current year)	<b>775</b>
Acres Under Stewardship Plans (all years)	<b>80,555</b>
Technical Assists to Private Landowners	<b>725</b>
Rural Fire Departments Assisted	<b>260</b>
Communities Assisted - State Fire Assistance	<b>977</b>
Acres Surveyed for Forest Health	<b>2,069,984</b>
Acres Protected from Insect and Disease Damage	<b>6,252</b>
Cities and Urban Areas Assisted	<b>435</b>
Economic Action Grants to Rural Areas	<b>4</b>
Acres Protected by Legacy (all years)	<b>2,597</b>

## Program Highlights

### Urban and Community Forestry

At the new 10.8-acre Grove of Remembrance at Liberty State Park, 691 trees have been planted—one for each New Jersey victim of September 11, 2001. There, visitors have a tranquil place to reflect and to view the Manhattan skyline and the area where the Twin Towers once stood. The Grove restored a neglected area of the park.

### Cooperative Fire Protection

State Fire Assistance funds helped support training for 300 firefighters, 162 fire prevention/education programs, Personal Protective, communications, and suppression equipment, hazardous fuels reduction on 3,800 acres, 4 Firewise in the Pines Workshops, 73 community mitigation projects, and 20 community fire risk assessments and mitigation plans. More than \$986,000 in Federal Excess Property was loaned to VFDs. Volunteer Fire Assistance grants went to 260 communities.

### Forest Stewardship

The recently revised Highlands Plan stresses the need for forest stewardship planning. Grant funds will provide direct reimbursement to New Jersey Highlands Region landowners for plan preparation.

### Forest Health Management

More than 264 southern pine beetle infestations in the Belleplain region of the State are being monitored using methods such as aerial map surveys and photography flights. Treatments for bacterial leaf scorch, a serious problem for New Jersey street trees, were completed and will be evaluated in 2004.

### Economic Action

The NJ Forest Service and the Northeastern Area contracted with a private firm to produce the report Carbon Sequestration and CO2 Emissions Credits: A Market-Based Forest Conservation Program for New Jersey. Results show that New Jersey forests sequester 166 million tons of carbon, equivalent to 600 million tons of CO2 emission credits, each worth \$5 to \$7 per ton. Revenues could help landowners plant more trees for forest management.

### Forest Legacy Program

Purchased 257 acres in the heart of the New Jersey Highlands, which will extend a continuous greenway of more than 1,500 acres.



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