



Delaware 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	\$80,000	\$115,000	\$57,680	(\$57,320)
Cooperative Fire Protection	\$144,620	\$184,398	\$76,079	(\$108,319)
Cooperative Forestry	\$413,500	\$502,795	\$254,530	(\$248,265)
Forest Legacy Program	\$1,034,000	\$2,015,000	\$3,109,643	\$1,094,643
	\$1,672,120	\$2,817,193	\$3,497,932	\$680,739

Key Issues

- Forest fragmentation and parcelization
- Maintaining a sufficient forest base to produce sustainable forest resources: timber, wildlife habitat, water quality
- Improving public awareness and understanding of forestry and forest management
- Improving the management of rural and urban forests
- Accurate and timely forest inventory and forest health data

Forest Facts and 2003 Accomplishments

Selected Facts

Population (2000 Census)	807,385
Acres of Forest Land	383,000
Acres of Non-Industrial Private Forest Land	325,000
Number of NIPF Landowners (Birch 1996)	17,300
Total Acres of Land Under State Fire Protection	557,000
Number of Rural Fire Departments	55
Number of Cities and Towns (Population > 1000)	44
Forest Based Employment (1998)	3,659
Forest Based Earnings (1998)	\$144,431,000
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	4
State Forestry Budget	\$1,629,300

Selected Accomplishments

Stewardship Plans Prepared (current year)	69
Acres Under Stewardship Plans (current year)	3,584
Acres Under Stewardship Plans (all years)	43,548
Technical Assists to Private Landowners	572
Rural Fire Departments Assisted	125
Communities Assisted - State Fire Assistance	31
Acres Surveyed for Forest Health	390,350
Acres Protected from Insect and Disease Damage	
Cities and Urban Areas Assisted	83
Economic Action Grants to Rural Areas	1
Acres Protected by Legacy (all years)	1,261

Program Highlights

Urban and Community Forestry

The Delaware Forest Service Urban & Community Forestry Program expanded its technical, educational, and financial assistance to communities, focusing on grants, on-site help, and annual workshops. They also established several stormwater management demonstration sites to highlight the benefits of alternative management techniques.

Cooperative Fire Protection

State Fire Assistance helped provide training for 180 wildland firefighters, personal protection and water handling equipment, and 50 Firewise, Prevention, and Risk planning activities. Hazardous fuels treatments were completed on 40 acres near at-risk communities. Volunteer Fire Assistance assisted 125 communities, training VFDs in cooperation with the Delaware Fire School, and helping them purchase Personal Protective Equipment and firefighting tools.

Forest Stewardship

The Delaware Forest Service planted more than 1,000 acres of trees under the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). In addition, more than 500 acres of harvested woodlands were reforested with loblolly pine seedlings.

Forest Health Management

Delaware participated in the Southwide Southern Pine Survey for the third consecutive year. A number of southern pine beetles were found at Redden State Forest, but overall the population is declining or at a low level in Delaware.

Economic Action

The Delaware Forest Service (DFS) supported projects such as updating the Primary and Secondary Wood Processors Directory, studying the feasibility of applying municipal wastewater to pine plantations, and supporting the Maryland/Delaware Master Logger Program and Timber Stumpage Price Reports. The DFS is also developing a directory of wood artisans.

Forest Legacy Program

The State is working on a project in the largest forestland holding in the State. The urgency of this project became evident when the landowner started marketing individual tracts of their ownership.



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Thursday, September 16, 2004