Do you own forest land?

- Prepared
- Knowledgeable
- Uncertain
- Careless
- Mostly inactive
- Hands-off

Inside: What results you can expect

Cornell Cooperative Extension Forestry
www.ForestConnect.info
Agroforestry Resource Center
www.cce.cornell.edu/arc

WOODLAND OWNER ASSOCIATIONS
NY Forest Owners Association (NYFOA)
800-836-3566 or www.nyfoa.org

Catskill Forest Association (CFA)
845-586-3054 or www.catskillforest.org

Tug Hill Resources Investment for Tomorrow (THRIFT)
315-376-5595 or www.tughillresources.org

New York State
Department of Environmental Conservation
DIVISION OF LANDS AND FORESTS
Website: www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dlf

REGION 1 (SUFFOLK, NASSAU)
SUNY Stony Brook....... 631-444-0285

REGION 2 (MANHATTAN, BRONX, QUEENS, BROOKLYN, STATEN ISLAND)
Long Island City.......... 718-482-4942

REGION 3 (DUTCHESS, ORANGE, PUTNAM, ROCKLAND, SULLIVAN, ULSTER, WESTCHESTER)
Wappingers Falls........ 845-831-8780
New Paltz .................... 845-256-3076

REGION 4 (ALBANY, COLUMBIA, DELAWARE, GREENE, MONTGOMERY, OTSEGO, REINGSAKER, SCHENECTADY, SCHOHARIE)
Stamford...................... 607-652-7365
Schenectady................ 518-357-2450

REGION 5 (CLINTON, ESSEX, FRANKLIN, FULTON, HAMILTON, SARATOGA, WASHINGTON, WARREN)
Ray Brook...................... 518-897-1291
Northville.................... 518-863-4545

REGION 6 (HERKIMER, JEFFERSON, LEWIS, ONEIDA, ST. LAWRENCE)
Lowville...................... 315-376-3521
Potsdam .............. 315-265-3090
Herkimer...................... 315-866-6330

REGION 7 (BROOME, CAYUGA, CHENANGO, CORTLAND, MADISON, ONONDAGA, OSWEGO, Tioga, Tompkins)
Sherburne............... 607-674-4036
Cortland....................... 607-753-3095

REGION 8 (CHEMUNG, GENESSEE, LIVINGSTON, MONROE, ONTARIO, ORLEANS, SCHUYLER, SENeca, STEUBEN, WAYNE, YATES)
Bath.......................... 607-776-2165
Avon .......................... 585-226-2466

REGION 9 (ALLEGANY, CATARAUGUS, CHAUTAUQUA, ERIE, NIAGARA, WYOMING)
Allegheny..................... 716-372-0645

Cornell University Cooperative Extension
with NYS DEC and USDA Forest Service
Forest owners benefit from healthy and productive woodlots. Find your path below:

**Hands-off or mostly inactive**

You enjoy your woods, but do not see any need to make plans. You believe nature should take its course without much interference from humans. You cannot find time to get involved.

**Likely result**

Your woodlot will develop without your guidance. Its look and function will change in ways you may not like. The current “look and feel” of your woods will change due to succession, deer browse, forest pests, and a variety of other conditions.

**NEXT STEPS**

- Set long-range goals to maintain or improve the ecological and economic values of your woodlot.
- Request a stewardship plan from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.
- Take advantage of introductory classes, bulletins, and informational woodswalks from Cornell Cooperative Extension, Master Forest Owner Volunteers, woodland owner groups, and NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (contact information on reverse).
- Learn to identify trees and woodland plants; learn about wildlife and their woodland habitats.

**Knowledgeable or prepared**

You know the difference between responsible forestry and neglect of forests. You take regular steps to improve your forest, wildlife habitats, and the economic value in your woods.

**Likely result**

You enjoy the wonder of a healthy and diverse forest, increased opportunities for recreation or hobbies, and extra income. Your financial equity increases annually, off-setting property taxes and other ownership costs.

**NEXT STEPS**

- Read publications, attend workshops, and join nature treks to increase your skills and know-how.
- Implement the next stages of your stewardship plan to meet your goals. Develop your forestry and chainsaw safety skills.
- Maintain marked property boundaries and protect your timber assets from theft.
- Consider becoming a Master Forest Owner Volunteer to encourage others with forest management. Work with Cornell Cooperative Extension and woodland owner associations to host a woodswalk that demonstrates your accomplishments.

**Careless or uncertain**

You allow harmful forestry practices like diameter-limit logging and unplanned timber harvests. You are unsure about your property boundaries. Professional forestry advice seems unnecessary.

**Likely result**

You lose substantial money and future value due to poor harvesting practices. Your forested property may cost more to own, despite its lower value. There may be a noticeable decline in aesthetics, wildlife diversity, and hunting opportunities.

**NEXT STEPS**

- Consider why you own a forest. Get help from NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Master Forest Owner Volunteers, and Cornell Cooperative Extension.
- Invest time in correcting past bad forestry practices by implementing a stewardship plan.
- Maintain marked property boundaries and get acquainted with neighboring boundaries.
- Strive to be a more educated and informed forest owner by joining a woodland owner association and attending workshops.
- Avoid spur-of-the-moment decisions that can restrict future options for your forest.