

New York Forest Facts

- New York State is 62% forested, an increase of 23% since 1953.
- Private landowners control 85% of NY's 15.4 million acres of commercial forest land, forest industry controls 8%, and public lands account for 7%.
- The average private forest landowner parcel size is 30 acres.
- Most people own forest land for a variety of reasons, and most forest owners would benefit by having a management plan developed by a professional forester.
- Only a small percentage of landowners have a management plan prepared by a professional forester.
- The most common tree species are sugar maple, red maple, hemlock, white pine, and white ash.
- The forest industry employs over 60,000 people and contributes \$4 billion to the gross state product.



Adapted from: SE Ohio Rural Action. Athens, OH.
Revised 11/99

got trees? CALL Before You Cut

A RESOURCE GUIDE
TO FOREST MANAGEMENT
FOR
NEW YORK WOODLOT OWNERS

Whether it's 5 acres or 5000, free assistance is available to help private forest landowners make informed decisions about management.



Make Informed Decisions

Harvesting timber will affect your land for many decades. Use the resources in this brochure to help make wise decisions on how to manage your woodlot. Take the first step yourself by walking your woods and thinking about your resource. Second, consider what you like and dislike about your woodlot and what benefits you want from your woodlot now, over the next several years, and for future generations. These are your objectives. Finally, seek assistance by calling the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation or Cornell Cooperative Extension.

Know Your Objectives

What are your goals? Do you want a financial return, wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities, or perhaps a combination of these? A variety of benefits are possible if you correctly plan your management activities. Talk to other landowners for ideas. You should have a clear idea of your objectives before you undertake any management activities. Hasty or misinformed decisions and actions can limit your options for future benefits from your land.

Know Your Resources



You have two different types of resources - your land and people trained to assist you. Master Forest Owner/COVERTS (MFO) volunteers are private forest landowners like you, they are not professional foresters. MFO volunteers are trained and eager to help other landowners get started with forest and wildlife management. MFO volunteers can counsel, encourage, and prepare you to seek appropriate assistance through DEC professional foresters and others.

Know Your Financial Alternatives

Forests can offer income opportunities through timber sales and through other forest products. If you plan to sell timber you should start with a free visit from a DEC forester. Non-timber forest products such as craft materials, honey, firewood, medicinal plants, maple syrup and mushrooms are other possible sources of income. Cornell Cooperative Extension can provide information bulletins and assistance on these and other enterprises.

Check With An Expert

See the Resource Directory on the back panel for contact information on local volunteers and professionals. Here is a list of who can help with specific needs:

- Technical assistance on noncommercial forest improvement, tree planting, federal cost-share programs, timber management, forest health, timber sale contracts - Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Service Forester, or a DEC Cooperating Forester
- General natural resource information and non-technical assistance - Master Forest Owner (MFO)/COVERTS volunteers through Cornell Cooperative Extension.
- Wildlife habitat management - DEC Division of Wildlife - call your DEC Service Forester; Cooperating Foresters
- Logging road erosion control, tree planting, general land use information - DEC Service Forester; Soil and Water Conservation District



- Advice from woodland owners - MFO volunteers; New York Forest Owners Association; Catskill Forest Association; Tug Hill Investment for Tomorrow; National Woodland Owners Association.
- Timber sale assistance and administration, timber appraisals, tax information - DEC list of Cooperating Foresters
- Non-timber forest products and forest environmental information, including rare plants and animals - Cornell Cooperative Extension, NYS DEC

Remember — Call Before You Cut!

Have a Plan and Get a Contract

A professional forester can help you with a management plan, federal cost-sharing, and a sale contract if you decide to harvest timber. Cost-share funds may be available, but first contact DEC for full details. A management plan is required to receive cost-share assistance.

Your sale contract should include all details about the timber sale. Consider using competitive bids from loggers registered with DEC on the Cooperating Timber Harvester list and those who have completed the Trained Logger Certification program. Whether hiring your forester or logger, ask for references and visit their recent harvests.



Check with a DEC Forester if you would like a free site visit or information on federal cost-share programs.

Sponsorship

Funding and support for this brochure is provided by:

- US Forest Service - Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry
- NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- USDA Renewable Resources Extension Act
- Cornell University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
- New York Woodland Stewards, Inc.

Thank you for your forest stewardship!

CALL BEFORE YOU CUT

RESOURCE DIRECTORY

NYS DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION - FORESTRY
CENTRAL OFFICE - Bureau of Private Land Services
Albany (518) 457 - 7370

REGION 3 (DUTCHESS, ORANGE, PUTNAM, ROCKLAND,
SULLIVAN, ULSTER, WESTCHESTER)
Wappingers Falls: (914) 831 - 3109
New Paltz: (914) 256 - 3000

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
& MASTER FOREST OWNER/COVERTS VOLUNTEERS
Dutchess: (914) 677 - 8223
Orange: (914) 344 - 1234
Putnam: (914) 278 - 6738
Rockland: (914) 429 - 7085
Sullivan: (914) 292 - 5250
Ulster: (914) 340 - 3990
Westchester: (914) 285 - 4630

WOODLAND OWNER ASSOCIATIONS
NY Forest Owners Association: (800) 836 - 3566
Catskill Forest Association: (914) 586-3054
National Woodland Owner
Association: (703) 255 - 2700

<http://www.dnr.cornell.edu/ext/forestrypage>



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Albany (518) 457 - 7370

REGION 4 (ALBANY, COLUMBIA, DELAWARE, GREENE,
MONTGOMERY, OTSEGO, RENSSELAER,
SCHENECTADY, SCHOHARIE)
Stamford: (607) 652 - 7365
Schenectady: (518) 357 - 2234

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
& MASTER FOREST OWNER/COVERTS VOLUNTEERS
Albany: (518) 765 - 3500
Columbia: (518) 828 - 3346
Delaware: (607) 865 - 6531
Greene: (518) 622 - 9820
Montgomery: (518) 853 - 3471
Otsego: (607) 547 - 2536
Rensselaer: (518) 272 - 4210
Schenectady: (518) 372 - 1622
Schoharie: (518) 234 - 4303

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Catskill Forest Association: (914) 586 - 3054
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REGION 5 (CLINTON, ESSEX, FRANKLIN, FULTON,
HAMILTON,
SARATOGA, WASHINGTON, WARREN)

Ray Brook: (518) 897 - 1200
Northville: (518) 863 - 4545
Warrensburg: (518) 623 - 3671

REGION 6 (HERKIMER, JEFFERSON, LEWIS, ONEIDA,
ST. LAWRENCE)

Lowville: (315) 376 - 3521
Potsdam: (315) 265 - 3090
Watertown: (315) 785 - 2263
Herkimer: (315) 866 - 6330

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
& MASTER FOREST OWNER/COVERTS VOLUNTEERS

Clinton: (518) 561 - 7450 Lewis: (315) 376 - 5270
Essex: (518) 962 - 4810 Onieda: (315) 736 - 3394
Franklin: (518) 483 - 7403 Saratoga: (518) 885 - 8995
Fulton: (518) 725 - 6441 St. Lawrence: (315) 379 - 9192
Hamilton: (518) 548 - 6191 Warren: (518) 623 - 3291
Herkimer: (315) 866 - 7920 Washington: (518) 746 - 2560
Jefferson: (315) 788 - 8450

WOODLAND OWNER ASSOCIATIONS
NY Forest Owners Assoc.: (800) 836 - 3566
Tug Hill Resources
Investment for Tomorrow: (315) 245 - 1650

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REGION 7 (BROOME, CAYUGA, CHENANGO,
CORTLAND, MADISON, ONONDAGA,
OSWEGO, TIOGA, TOMPKINS)
Sherburne: (607) 674 - 4036
Cortland: (607) 753 - 3095
Kirkwood: (607) 775 - 2545

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
& MASTER FOREST OWNER/COVERTS VOLUNTEERS

Broome: (607) 772 - 8953
Cayuga: (315) 255 - 1183
Chenango: (607) 334 - 5841
Cortland: (607) 753 - 5077
Madison: (315) 684 - 3001
Onondaga: (315) 424 - 9485
Oswego: (315) 963 - 7286
Tioga: (607) 687 - 4020
Tompkins: (607) 272 - 2292

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REGION 9 (ALLEGANY, CATTARAUGUS, CHAUTAUQUA,
ERIE, NIAGARA, WYOMING)
Olean: (716) 372 - 0645
Falconer: (716) 665 - 6111
Belmont: (716) 268 - 5392
Buffalo: (716) 851 - 7010

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
& MASTER FOREST OWNER/COVERTS VOLUNTEERS

Allegany: (716) 268 - 7644
Cattaraugus: (716) 699 - 2377
Chautauqua: (716) 664 - 9502
Erie: (716) 652 - 5400
Niagara: (716) 433 - 6731
Wyoming: (716) 786 - 2251

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REGION 8 (CHEMUNG, GENESEE, LIVINGSTON,
MONROE, ONTARIO, ORLEANS, SCHUYLER,
SENECA, STEUBEN, WAYNE, YATES)
Bath: (607) 776 - 2165
Avon: (716) 226 - 2466

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
& MASTER FOREST OWNER/COVERTS VOLUNTEERS

Chemung: (607) 734 - 4453
Genesee: (716) 343 - 3040
Livingston: (716) 658 - 3250
Monroe: (716) 461 - 1000
Ontario: (716) 394 - 3977
Orleans: (716) 589 - 5561
Schuyler: (607) 535 - 7161
Seneca: (315) 539 - 9252
Steuben: (607) 776 - 9631
Wayne: (315) 331 - 8415
Yates: (315) 536 - 5123

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