



Rhode Island



State & Private Forestry Fact Sheet

Investment in State's Cooperative Programs:

Program	FY 2011 Final
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	103,000
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management - National Fire Plan	0
Forest Legacy	40,000
Forest Stewardship	88,100
State Fire Assistance	85,025
State Fire Assistance - National Fire Plan	55,000
Urban and Community Forestry	200,000
Volunteer Fire Assistance	17,088
Volunteer Fire Assistance - National Fire Plan	15,593
Total	603,806

This funding is for all entities within the state, not just the State Forester's office.

Key Issues:

- The impact of development pressure and a growing rate of inter-generational transfers of forestland ownership on water quality, wildlife habitat, and availability of local forest products.
- Funding to support the management, protection and expansion of urban tree canopy.
- Funding to support effective public land management, environmental education, and provide sufficient outreach to forest landowners.
- Impacts to sustainable forest management and forest ecosystem health from exotic invasive species.
- Insufficient resources to adequately prepare for or cope with large scale damaging events including weather, wildfires, or invasive species.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments:

Selected Facts		FY2011 Accomplishments	
Population	1,052,567	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance (Each)	173
Acres of Forest Land	351,982	Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	1,094
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	303,000	Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans	1,094
Number of NIPF Landowners	38,000	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted (Each)	20
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	State Fire Communities Assisted (Each)	21
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	433,000	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected	0
Number of Rural Fire Departments	70	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions (Acres)	117
Cities and Towns	8	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	39
Forest Based Employment	3,877	Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance (Each)	1,052,567
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	5	Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance (Hours)	6,842
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	1,750,000		

Program Highlights:

Cooperative Fire Protection

Ten volunteer fire departments received \$30,000 in Volunteer Fire Assistance grants for equipment acquisition and training, serving over 20 communities. The Smokey Bear program delivered fire prevention messages at 300 wildfire prevention programs. Prescribed fire was used to treat 50 acres of public and private lands, reducing wildfire threats to communities at risk. 320 firefighters received training in ICS and wildland firefighting skills.

Forest Health Protection

Winter moth and the orange striped oakworm are continuing to cause significant defoliation. Rhode Island is actively surveying for two serious foreign pests, Asian longhorned beetle and emerald ash borer, focusing on the movement of firewood (which can spread pests to new

locations), monitoring, and trap trees, with no positive detections.

Forest Legacy

Rhode Island completed a 117-acre Forest Legacy project that has been managed by the same family for more than 200 years. It is adjacent to a 471-acre tract previously protected by the Program.

Landowner Assistance

Rhode Island's Stewardship Program continued working with private sector partners, our local woodland owners association (RIFCO), and the Natural Resource Conservation Service. Through a combined effort of the Forest Stewardship Program and partners, a wetlands workshop was held this past fall, wrapping up with a field visit to a private forest stewardship property. The workshop focused on state regulations, BMPs, and understanding the requirement to leave some trees when harvesting in a regulated wetland.

Urban and Community Forestry

The City of Providence completed its ongoing "Urban Tree Canopy Tool Development and Assessment, Goal Setting and Implementation Grant" (UTC grant). The City's "Trees 2020" initiative, which set a goal of planting 40,000 trees in the city by the year 2020, grew out of the UTC grant project. The project's progress, as well as more information about ongoing works, can be found at www.trees2020.org.

For more information contact:



**Rhode Island Department of
Environmental Management**
Cathy Sparks
Division of Forest Environment
2185 Putnam Pike
Chepachet, RI 02814
Ph: 401-647-3367
Fax: 401-647-3590
Email: catherine.sparks@dem.ri.gov

Northeastern Area S&PF
Tony Ferguson
USDA Forest Service
11 Campus Blvd., Suite 200
Newtown Square, PA 19073
Ph: 610-557-4103
Fax: 610-557-4177
Email: tferguson@fs.fed.us

United States
Department of
Agriculture

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