

Informed Forest Stewardship Improves the Environment and Supports Local Economies



Forest stewardship helps forest owners make informed decisions about the woodland resource that dominates New York's landscape. Because of forest stewardship, forest owners are more likely to be

- active in their management
- deliberate in sustaining environmental qualities
- willing to participate in sustainable timber harvests
- able to communicate values to local governments
- better able to sustain the forest resource

Cornell's Forest Resources Conservation Program supports the efforts of forest stewardship through the Department of Natural Resources, two forest-based field stations, and almost 30 county offices of Cornell University Cooperative Extension. Educational programs include workshops, written articles, interactive web pages, peer-counseling, demonstration sites, and applied research. Examples of program impacts include:

1. Landowner forestry short courses serving 10+ counties resulted in as much as a 21% increase in landowner use of professional foresters and an 11% increase in the use of water quality best management practices.
2. Foresters plan to increase their writing of stewardship plans by 14%, with the majority of participants indicating an improved understanding of federal standards. Impact on 103 foresters and educators who reach 9000 forest owners controlling more than 300,000 acres.
3. Trained volunteers give personalized counseling to approximately 150 landowners on 11,000 acres each year. Since beginning, trained volunteers have reached more than 1,600 landowners and impacted more than 112,000 acres. As a result of the interaction, 60% of landowners meet with a forester and become more active in management.
4. Mass marketing to improve awareness of educational and technical support services have reached more than 67,000 landowners controlling more than 4.5 million acres.
5. There are five current or recent applied research projects.



CORNELL'S FOREST RESOURCES CONSERVATION PROGRAM ENJOYS BROAD COLLABORATIVE SUPPORT AND PARTNERSHIP WITH:

- Cornell's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences & Department of Natural Resources
- USDA Renewable Resources Extension Program
- Cornell University Arnot Forest & Uihlein Forest
- Cornell University Cooperative Extension and Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station
- Master Forest Owner/Volunteer Program
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- New York Forest Owners Association
- USDA Forest Service - State and Private Forestry
- Audubon New York

For more information on the Forest Resources Conservation Program, contact Dr. Peter Smallidge, NYS Extension Forester at 607-255-4696, pjs23@cornell.edu, or visit www.dnr.cornell.edu/ext/forestrypage