



State and Private Forestry Fact Sheet

Michigan 2026



Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

Program	FY 2025 Final
Community Forest and Open Space Conservation	\$0
Cooperative Lands — Forest Health Management	\$399,000
Forest Legacy	\$25,000
Forest Stewardship	\$149,830
Landscape Scale Restoration	\$0
State Fire Assistance	\$1,609,744
Urban and Community Forestry	\$293,000
Volunteer Fire Assistance	\$465,282
Total	\$2,941,856

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

Ninety-two percent of the 176 million acres of forests across the 20 States of the Northeast and Midwest are owned and managed by families, forest products industry, States, local governments, and other non-Federal entities. State, Private, and Tribal Forestry (SPTF) programs:

- Promote healthy, productive forests across all ownerships for the benefit of people and wildlife.
- Actively manage forests for resilience to disasters, wildfires, diseases, insects, and invasive plants.
- Empower private landowners with information and technical assistance to actively and sustainably manage their forests for wildlife, forest products, recreation, and other goals.
- Protect critically important rural forests and watersheds from conversion to non-forest land uses.
- Provide wildland fire and disaster response and recovery.
- Establish and manage urban and community forests.

The USDA Forest Service and State forestry agencies collaborate with each other and additional partners to make an impact at the right scale through shared stewardship goals, which also support each State Forest Action Plan. Demonstrating their commitment to cooperative forest management across all lands, the State of Michigan and partners contributed over \$16,139,000 to SPTF programs through fiscal year 2025 grants.

The Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act and other laws authorize the SPTF programs and national priorities, which are listed as the three Program Goals below. State Forest Action Plans are developed by State forestry agencies with their partners to guide the work of natural resource professionals to provide forest benefits. The State Forest Action Plan goals are listed in the Key Issues section below.

Program Goals

- Conserve and manage working forest landscapes for multiple values and uses.
- Protect forests from threats.
- Enhance public benefits from trees and forests.

Key Issues

- Enhance coordination among cooperative programs, stakeholders, and partners.
- Advocate for sound forestry policies.
- Increase economic productivity and benefits.
- Communicate the value and importance of forestry.
- Involve partners and the public in managing Michigan's forests.

- Monitor the condition of the forest and impacts of our work.
- Improve understanding of forests through research.
- Implement actions to improve Michigan's forests.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments

Selected Facts	Value	FY 2025 Accomplishments	Value
Population	10,077,331	Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance	16,520
Acres of Forest Land	20,167,228	Total Acres of all New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans	31,528
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	10,607,555	Acres of New or Revised Stewardship Plans within Federal Investment Areas	4,794
Number of NIPF Landowners	185,698	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted	130
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	0	State Fire Communities Assisted	502
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	20,000,000	Forest Health Non-Federal Acres Protected	0
Number of Rural Fire Departments	1,071	Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions	243
Cities and Towns	533	Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance	263
Forest Based Employment	36,202	Population of Communities Receiving Urban Forestry Program Assistance	5,575,525
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	5	Labor Value of Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance	530,687
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	32,000,000		

Program Highlights

Economic and Public Benefits of Trees — Urban and Community Forestry

In 2025, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) program assisted over 5.4 million Michigan citizens, living in 274 communities. To expand direct assistance to communities, the program added a new regional urban forestry and partnership coordinator to focus on communities in mid- and west Michigan. Relevant outreach and news reached over 20,000 subscribers, 5 percent more than 2024, via the UCF program's weekly E-newsletter. Michigan certified a new record of 131 communities through the annual Tree City USA program.

Healthy Forests — Forest Health Protection

The State of Michigan, in cooperation with partners, continues to address forest health needs across the State including native and invasive pests and diseases, and Michigan Watchlist invasive plants. Survey and treatment of hemlock woolly adelgid across 11 positive counties in the Lower Peninsula aim to slow the spread into Michigan's vast hemlock resource to the north. Surveys and suppression activities for balsam woolly adelgid continue in three mid-Michigan counties. In southeast Michigan, established pockets of spotted lanternfly are being monitored and treated to slow the spread in six counties. Beech leaf disease has been confirmed in eight counties in southeast Michigan. Oak wilt was confirmed in Delta County, the 62nd positive county in Michigan, with detection and treatment continuing across the State. Heterobasidion root disease detections have occurred in 19 counties with implications for conifer management. In the northern lower peninsula and areas of the eastern upper peninsula, a fourth year of jack pine budworm outbreak continues; however, defoliation severity has decreased in many areas. Mile-a-minute weed is only known to occur in one southern Michigan county and is heavily managed. Purple jewelweed is in seven counties, mostly in the upper peninsula with one new county detected this year in southern Michigan. Kudzu and cinnamon vine are in 5 and 15 counties, respectively. Stiltgrass is in eight counties with four new counties detected this year, Lesser celandine is the newest watch list species with 24 infested counties. Calligraphy sedge and chaff flower have still not been detected in Michigan.

Markets — Wood Innovation

Nine projects were funded in Michigan totaling \$2,654,539. Devereaux Sawmill, Hiawatha Log Homes, Ottawa Forest Products, and S&L Lumber each received an award of \$300,000 to upgrade manufacturing

equipment and increase production levels. Michigan Technological University will be using \$300,000 in funding to expand the use of hardwood lumber in mass timber applications. Northern Michigan University will be commissioning engineering work for a wood-to-energy project using their \$114,553 award. Western Michigan University received \$299,986 in funding to examine the application of biochar to improve the performance of asphalt pavement. An award of \$240,000 will support the Bay Mills Indian Community to initiate the design and engineering work for a long-term care facility constructed using cross laminated timber panels. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources will expand upon their portable skidder bridge program with a \$500,000 award.

Private Working Forest Lands — Forest Stewardship

The Forest Stewardship program in Michigan strives to support a robust cadre of private forest landowners and practitioners to achieve meaningful conservation outcomes for both forest landowners and the general public. In 2025, Michigan trained 852 loggers about the 2022 Sustainable Forestry Initiative's (SFI) Fiber Sourcing Standard, a third-party certification standard that helps loggers better understand and implement forestry practices that promote sustainability. In the same vein, the State partnered with the USDA Forest Service to purchase 8 portable bridges for 75 Master Loggers to use on private forests, protecting water quality by minimizing streambed disruption and reducing sedimentation during harvest operations.

A severe ice storm damaged thousands of acres of privately owned forests in parts of northern Michigan in March. The State partnered with the USDA Farm Services Agency, the USDA Forest Service and consulting foresters to implement the Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP), providing technical and financial assistance to help recover and restore forest productivity of affected forests. This public-private effort established 27 contracts with consulting foresters to develop an estimated 1,200 EFRP plans.

National Reforestation, Nurseries, and Genetics Resource Program

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources ceased their conifer production at Wyman State Forest Nursery in Manistique around 2018. They now purchase all conifers from a private nursery but grow a limited number of hardwoods at Wyman and process and handle seed at the site. Through the Forest Stewardship program and National Reforestation, Nurseries, and Genetics Resource program, the State receives financial assistance to support nursery, genetics, and seed programs.

State Forest Action Plan Implementation

Providing a roadmap for shared stewardship, the State Forest Action Plan (SFAP) guides the work of natural resource professionals, in partnership with others across the State, to provide forest benefits for future generations. The SFAP includes goals and strategies for active forest management for healthy, productive forests; wildfire readiness and response; forest products and markets; and more (see "Key Issues" listed above from the SFAP). A SFAP five-year highlights report will be completed in 2026. Accomplishments from the SFAP highlights report will be added to this State Fact Sheet later this year.

Wildland Fire — Cooperative Fire Protection

Using State Fire Capacity funds, Michigan trained over 1,441 firefighters, conducted 50 wildfire prevention programs, assisted 632 communities, and supported national wildland fire suppression efforts through the mobilization of firefighters and equipment. The State also received a Wildfire Risk Reduction grant to develop two Community Wildfire Protection Plans. The Michigan Volunteer Fire Capacity Program awarded grants to 130 rural fire departments throughout Michigan. Michigan acquired \$773,977 of firefighting equipment through the Federal Excess Property Program and \$2,237,522 in equipment from the Department of Defense Firefighter Property Program.

Working Lands — Forest Legacy, Community Forest and Open Space Conservation

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources acquired a 243-acre property in northern Michigan, completing the Elk Run Forest Legacy Program (FLP) project using \$300,000 of FLP funds.

Contact Information



Michigan DNR - Forest Mgmt Division

Jeff Stampfly
State Forester
PO Box 30452
Lansing, MI 48909-7952
517-284-5848
stampflyj@michigan.gov

US Forest Service Eastern Region

Edward Hunter
Acting Deputy Regional Forester
USDA Forest Service
626 E Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53202-4616
414-297-3600
edward.hunter@usda.gov
