

What is Forest Stewardship?

Approximately six million acres of private forest land exists in Colorado. Like all natural resources, forests require proper management to be healthy and productive. By managing your forest you can protect water quality, increase habitat diversity for wildlife, and increase the growth rate of your trees.



In addition, properly managed forests can provide income, reduce the risk of wildland fire, help protect trees against insects and diseases, and even increase the value of your property.

The Forest Stewardship Program can provide you with information, education and technical assistance. This program encourages long-term stewardship of private forest lands. It is designed to assist landowners to more actively manage their forest and related resources.

Who can be a Forest Steward?

The Forest Stewardship Program focuses on landowners in important resource areas, including plains and prairies, where good planning and management will enhance and sustain the long-term productivity of multiple forest resources. The program provides landowners with the planning and technical assistance they need to maintain productive and healthy forest conditions. The Program also recognizes landowners who apply stewardship to their forested lands. Landowners with a Forest Stewardship plan may also be eligible for financial assistance if available.



How can I become a Forest Steward?



If you are a landowner who wishes to manage forest vegetation and associated resources for stewardship, you are eligible. First, you will work with a professional forester to identify your goals and objectives for your property. Your forester can then help you develop a Forest Stewardship Management Plan. The plan will enhance your knowledge of your property and assist you in making informed decisions to sustain a healthier, more productive forest.

Who is involved?

Strengthening the cooperative working relationships of all natural resource organizations is an important goal. The Colorado Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee, whose members have common natural resource interests, guides and recommends direction for the Forest Stewardship Program.

Membership includes:

Private Forest Landowners
Colorado State Forest Service
Colorado Division of Wildlife
State Conservation Board
State Land Board
USDA Forest Service

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Colorado State Cooperative Extension

Colorado Forestry Association

Colorado Tree Farm Committee

Colorado Association of Conservation Districts

Colorado Timber Industry Association

Pheasant's Forever

The Nature Conservancy

Private Consultants

Colorado Counties Inc.

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Conservation Fund

Who will help me?

To find out how you can participate in the Forest Stewardship Program please contact your local Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) District Office

or

log onto the CSFS website:

<http://www.colostate.edu/Depts/CSFS/offlist.html>



Colorado's Forest Stewardship Program

