



Forestry Assistance

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The Forestry Assistance Program (FAP) is designed to help family forest owners manage their forests in an economically beneficial and environmentally sound manner. Conservation district foresters help family forest owners understand the value of actively managed forest resources and refer landowners to private sector professionals for management plan development, forest management, timber valuation, and harvests.

IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

Nearly 50 percent of Michigan's 19 million acres of forestland is owned by non-industrial private forestland owners (family forest owners). Family forest owners contribute 64 percent of Michigan's timber supply. The forest products industry contributes more than \$20 billion to the state's economy annually with the potential to contribute much more. Only one-third of the growth of timber on private forestlands is currently being harvested.

FY18 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Conducted over 2,000 landowner site visits.
- Referred \$9.7 million in forest management projects for private landowners.
- Completed 74 risk assessments for the MAEAP Forest, Wetlands, and Habitat system
- Completed 81 American Tree Farm Inspections.
- Delivered 368 outreach events targeted to family forest owners, foresters, and loggers.

MEASURING SUCCESS:

Metric	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18
Outreach events	346	337	407	368
On-site visits to family forest owners	2,012	2,202	2,037	2,007
Service referrals to the private sector	837	735	864	1,070
Service referrals to the public sector	627	649	663	907
Service referrals for timber harvest	360	295	335	413
Estimated value of referrals (\$M)	8.4	9.8	10.1	9.7
Acres referred to Qualified Forest	77,049	69,535	77,224	62,005

FY19 PROGRAM GOALS:

- Increase awareness and enrollment in Michigan’s Qualified Forest Program.
- Conduct 2,000 on-site visits to forest properties.
- Conduct 1,500 referrals to the public and private sectors.
- Host 200 Outreach events.
- Complete a master plan document that outlines program mission, vision, values, and strategic priorities for the next 5-10 year period.



KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- Family forest owners
- Private sector professional foresters
- Michigan’s forest products industry
- Local units of government
- Forestry, wildlife, and conservation advocacy groups

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- Public Act 59 of 2013, as amended