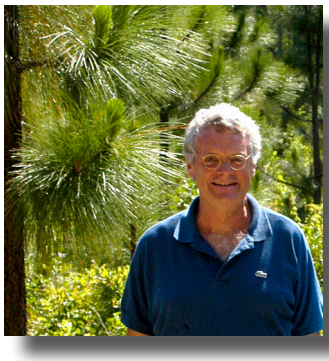
2013 Longleaf Pine Initiative At A Glance

Are you looking for another profitable crop for your land? Consider the many benefits of Longleaf pine:

- ***Most diverse forests of all natural community types in North America***
- ***Associated vegetation supports declining species such as Bachman's Sparrow, Red-Cockaded Woodpecker, and Bobwhite Quail***
- ***Mature trees can provide some of the highest quality lumber and products of all southern pine species***



Applications are accepted continuously. Deadlines for batching periods are January 18, February 15, & March 15, 2013.

Program Description

NRCS
Natural Resources Conservation Service

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is making financial and technical assistance available to landowners interested in restoring Longleaf pine forest on Virginia agricultural land, nonindustrial private forest and Tribal land.

Approved participants will receive financial assistance for implementing conservation practices such as planting Longleaf pine, installing firebreaks, conducting prescribed burning and controlling invasive plants. Owners must offer at least two acres of land to maintain or improve existing habitat.

	Description	Sample Practices
Upland Wildlife Habitat Creation	Community can consist of hardwood savannas, Longleaf pine forests, wildflower meadows, and early successional habitat for quail, rabbits, and other species.	• Field Borders • Whole-Field Wildlife Plantings • Hedgerow Establishment • Hardwood Forest Planting • Longleaf Pine Establishment • Fescue Conversion • Pollinator Habitat
Habitat Maintenance	Potential projects include invasive species control, seasonal water management, early successional habitat management and natural food rejuvenation.	• Disking • Prescribed Burning • Herbicide Application • Mechanical Brush Control • Pre-Commercial Thinning to Promote Hardwoods

A Commitment to Continuity . . .

At the time of European settlement, Longleaf pine forests covered over one million acres in southeast Virginia. By 1850, nearly all of Virginia's Longleaf forest had vanished.

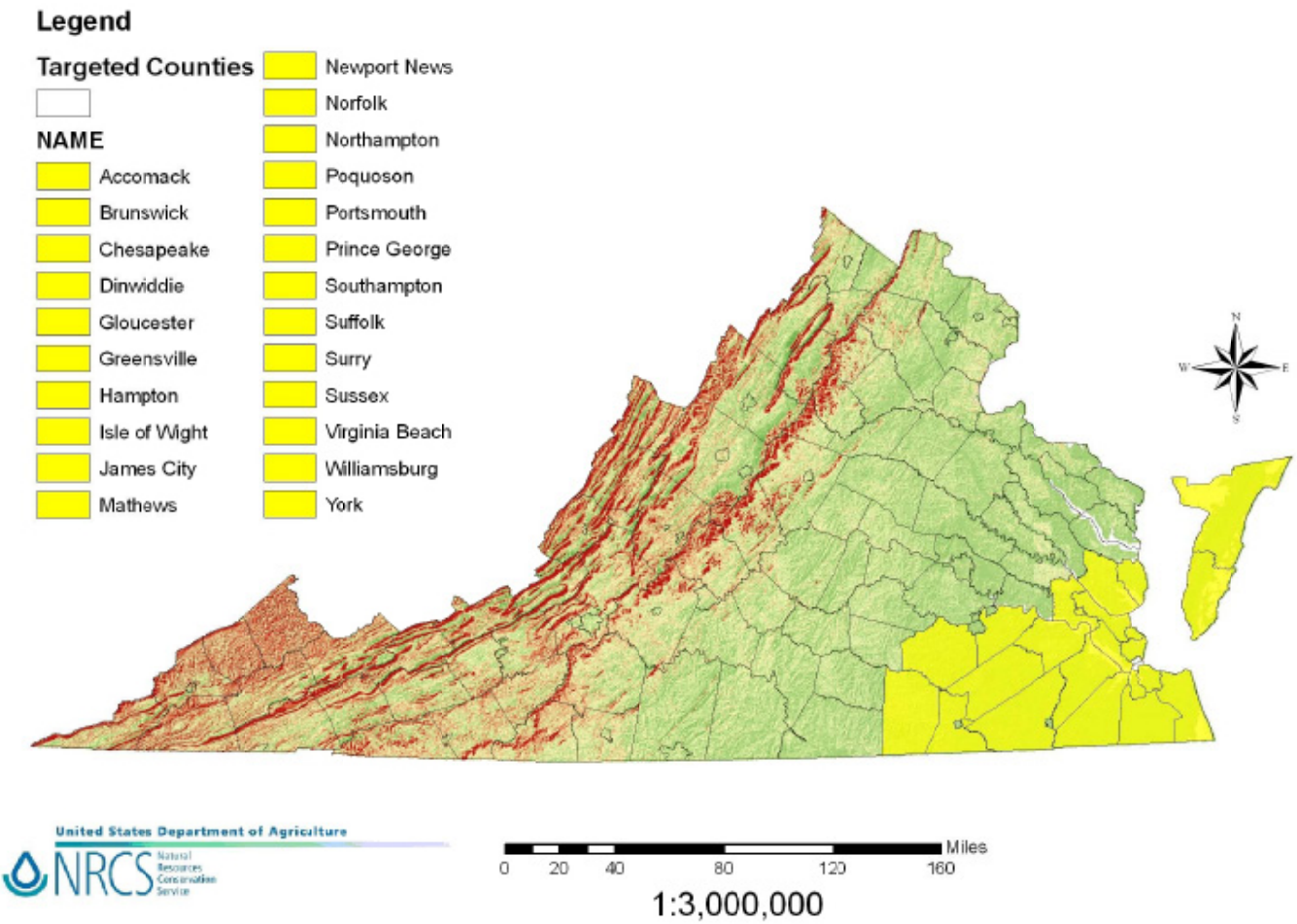
The Longleaf Pine Initiative (LLPI) is part of the NRCS "all-lands" approach, which addresses priority resource concerns such as those of the Longleaf pine ecosystem. Conservationists are now working to restore its native range in parts of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia.

NRCS and its partners are working directly with private landowners to implement conservation practices to protect, improve and restore Longleaf pine forests.

These activities will offer environmental, economic, and wildlife benefits for generations to come. Longleaf pine forests are more resistant to insect and disease infestation, wildfires, and storm damage than other pine species. They also help to improve water quality and support a complex ecosystem of wildflowers, shrubs, grasses, ferns, and game and non-game species.

For successful stands of longleaf pine, the sites must be carefully prepared with competitive vegetation controlled.

Funding is available to landowners in the Virginia counties listed below:



For more information, contact your local USDA Service Center.