



## Are you Interested in Establishing a Stand of Trees? Would you like to Improve the Health and Vigor of your Existing Woods?

If you own a woodlot in West Virginia that is at least five acres in size, West Virginia's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Forestry Program may be for you. EQIP is a way for landowners to receive technical advice from professional foresters and financial assistance to install forestry practices on their lands.

### Am I Eligible?

The eligibility criteria for West Virginia's EQIP Forestry program include:

- Owning or managing a minimum of five acres of woodland
- Having a Forest Management Plan or being willing to have a forestry practice plan developed
- Note: Those who have an existing forest stewardship plan will receive additional points in the ranking process\*
- Restricting livestock from the forested land
- A USDA customer service record with the Farm Service Agency

\*If you do not have a Forest Stewardship Plan or other forest management plan, the West Virginia Division of Forestry (WVDOF) and other foresters may be of assistance in creating a such a plan.

***USDA-NRCS and West Virginia's Division of Forestry have established a partnership to provide technical and financial assistance to forest owners.***

### How Do I Apply?

Applications for the EQIP Forestry program are available at your local USDA Service Center in the NRCS Office. While applications are accepted throughout the year, a selection period will occur approximately once per year, typically in the fall or winter. EQIP is a competitive program; all applications are ranked and evaluated against other applications. Contact your local NRCS Office for more information. Information is available online at: <http://www.wv.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/> and <http://www.wvforestry.com/>

### What is Available?

The Forestry EQIP practices include:

- Forest Stand Improvement
  - Crop Tree Release
  - Thinning
  - Cull Tree Removal
  - Regeneration Cut/Release
  - Combination Improvement
- Brush Management in Woodland
  - Tree-of-Heaven
  - Multiflora Rose
  - Autumn Olive
  - Bush Honeysuckle
  - Oriental Bittersweet
  - Grapevine
- Tree/Shrub Establishment
- Tree/Shrub Site Preparation
- Tree/Shrub Pruning
- Access Control and associated Woodland Exclusion Fencing

NOTE: EQIP program managers have proposed the following contract/practice limitations for fiscal year 2012.

<b>Practice</b>	<b>Component(s)</b>	<b>Minimum Treatment Acreage/ Units</b>	<b>Practice Payment Cap</b>
Forest Stand Improvement (666)	Crop Tree Release, Area Wide Thinning, Cull Tree Removal, Cull Tree Removal, Combination Improvement, Regeneration Cut, Release	5	\$10,000
Brush Management (314)	Tree-of-Heaven Control, Multiflora Rose, Autumn Olive, Bush Honeysuckle, Oriental Bittersweet, and Grapevine Control	1	\$10,000
Tree/Shrub Site Preparation (490)		1	\$10,000
Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)		1	\$10,000
Tree/Shrub Pruning (660)	Pruning Softwoods and Black Walnut	1	\$10,000
Fencing (382) associated with Access Control (472)		-	\$35,000

**For more information contact:**

Contact your local NRCS Office:

Contact information:

<http://www.wv.nrcs.usda.gov/contact/index.html>

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