



# Kentucky



## State & Private Forestry Fact Sheet

### Investment in State's Cooperative Programs:

<b>Program</b>	<b>FY 2006 Final</b>	<b>FY 2007 Estimate</b>
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management	469,388	288,908
Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management - National Fire Plan	0	0
Forest Land Enhancement	125,000	0
Forest Legacy	1,750,000	25,000
Forest Stewardship	655,000	560,000
State Fire Assistance	328,403	486,100
State Fire Assistance - National Fire Plan	732,236	541,800
Urban and Community Forestry	366,900	292,641
Volunteer Fire Assistance	106,860	107,380
Volunteer Fire Assistance - National Fire Plan	127,595	130,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,661,382</b>	<b>2,431,829</b>

The cooperative programs are administered and implemented through a partnership between the State of Kentucky, the USDA Forest Service and many other private and government entities. These programs promote the health and productivity of forest lands and rural economies. Emphasis focuses on forest sustainability and the production of commodity and amenity values such as wildlife, water quality and environmental services.

- The goal is to maintain and improve the health of urban and rural forests and related economies. These programs: Increase cost effectiveness through the use of partnerships in delivery; Increase values through sustained productivity of forests; Are voluntary, and use non-regulatory approaches.

### Key Issues:

- Over 70 percent of Kentucky's population now lives within an urban area.
- Forests are being fragmented and landowner's objectives are changing. There are 423,000 forest landowners in KY; 123,000 own less than 10 ac. Absentee owners control about 35% of the forestland in some areas.
- Almost 90 percent of wildland fires are caused by humans, so the KDF has increased and diversified fire prevention and education.
- Invasive species prevention activities continue by KDF and other partners.

## Forest Facts and Accomplishments:

Selected Facts		FY2006 Accomplishments	
Population	4,041,769	Stewardship Plans Prepared (current year) (Each)	743
Acres of Forest Land	12,000,000	Acres Under Stewardship Plans (current year) (Acres)	77,219
Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land	10,324,000	Acres Under Stewardship Plans (all years) (Acres)	1,721,305
Number of NIPF Landowners	335,000	Acres of Multi-resource Practices Implemented on NIPF (Acres)	1,019
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	107,718	Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted (Each)	67
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	17,100,000	State Fire Communities Assisted (Each)	7
Number of Rural Fire Departments	840	Coop Forest Health Acres Protected (Acres)	2,040
Number of Cities And Towns	467	Forest Legacy Project Acquisition (Acres)	1,110
Forest Based Employment	38,000	Urban Forestry - Participating Communities (Each)	99
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	1	Urban Forestry - Volunteer Assistance (Days)	317
State Forestry Budget (All Sources)	16,000,000		

## Program Highlights:

### *Forest Health Protection*

Pest populations were generally low in 2005. The DOF successfully implemented a wide variety of forest health programs: southern pine beetle prevention (2,500 acres treated) and exotic insect and disease detection surveys (emerald ash borer, hemlock woolly adelgid, sudden oak death). Hemlock Woolly Adelgid was found on 10 sites in southeastern Kentucky in 2006, specifically in Bell and Harlan counties. Infestations occurred on NIPF, state forest, state park, national park and a state nature preserve. Gypsy moth captures totaled 116 moths, with the heaviest concentration in Campbell County (61) in northern Kentucky. Emerald ash borer threatens northern Kentucky and municipalities are gearing up for the infestation by updating tree inventories and training staff and volunteers on identification and control applications. Sudden Oak Death forest and stream surveys were conducted across the state in cooperation with the University of Kentucky Department of Plant Pathology, luckily, the pathogen was not found. Bush honeysuckle has become a significant threat to central Kentucky forestlands. Two research projects were established to first, determine what kind of site conditions are needed for bush honeysuckle to grow and second, what are the best methods to eradicate the honeysuckle. Demonstration sites were established in several sites

across central Kentucky to gather necessary data.

#### *Cooperative Fire Protection*

State Fire Assistance provides funding to support fire fighting resources throughout Kentucky, including the development of 14 Community Wildfire Protection Plans. The Federal Excess Personal Property Program assists Kentucky in acquiring and placing fire equipment in rural communities throughout the state. In addition, Kentucky Division of Forestry administers Volunteer Fire Assistance Program funds to support the fire prevention and protection efforts of rural community fire departments.

#### *Economic Action*

Kentucky continues to focus on diversifying rural economies to include consideration of forest resource-based development opportunities.

#### *Forest Legacy*

The Knobs State Forest located near Louisville was purchased with 75% Forest Legacy funds and was dedicated on August 24, 2006.

#### *Landowner Assistance*

The Kentucky Woodlands Magazine was developed through a partnership between the Kentucky Division of Forestry and the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service. This outreach effort targeting family forest landowners will cover a wide range of forestry-related topics,

#### *Urban and Community Forestry*

25 communities, nonprofit organizations and educational institutions received urban and community forestry assistance grants in 2006. Over 500,000 seedlings were planted for local arbor day ceremonies across the state and the city of Lexington's Reforest the Bluegrass project planted more than 25,000 seedlings along a main riparian zone in north end of the city; and over 100 volunteers participate in this annual event. Several community tree boards have developed a series of training workshops for neighboring communities to assist them in recruiting tree board members and defining their roles. The state urban and community forestry conference focused on storm management for communities and was well attended with over 150 arborists, city workers, tree board members, state workers, and interested citizens. Bernheim Arboretum is a 250 acre landscape arboretum that represents a collection of Kentucky's finest resource for educating both the public and professionals on tree selection, care, and long-term maintenance. Through a grant they identified a list of top 50 urban trees, and created a walking trail to see them all. Printed educational materials, specialized hand-held computers, mobile lab, as well as an updated web site were also part of this project.

#### *Forest Stewardship*

29 service foresters worked individually with nearly 1,500 private forestland owners to develop 985 forest stewardship/management plans on 101,871 acres. 10.9 MBF valued at over \$2.36 million was harvested in 2006 with assistance from KDF service foresters. Over 1,300 acres of tree planting occurred across the state particularly along riparian areas, reclaimed mine lands, and in urban areas. Over 85 forestry field days, workshops and landowner training opportunities occurred across the state, involving partnering with many sister agencies (i.e. fish and wildlife, nature preserves, conservation, extension, NRCS, USFS, etc.), and several forestry-related organizations, such as the Kentucky Woodland Owners' Association, Kentucky Forest Industries Association, Kentucky Association of Consulting Foresters, etc. One specific workshop entitled "One Acre at a Time", was targeted at absentee landowners and was held in Lexington and was so well attended that another had to be held

the next week to provide the information to the landowners who couldn't fit into the facility.

*Firewise Communities Grant Program*

The eight recipients of the 2005 funds completed their projects during 2006 (Harlan County, Estill County, Lincoln County, East Morgan County Firewise Council, McCreary County, Route 504 VFD and Taylor County and Wayne County. Seven communities/volunteer fire departments received funding in 2006, these are the city of Cunningham, Poplar Spring VFD, city of Belfry, and Greensburg VFD, Northeast Rowan County VFD, Route 504 VFD and East Morgan VFD. Grant recipients were officially recognized through local ceremonies by state officials and were presented a ceremonial check for local media coverage. Three communities have met all national standards and were officially recognized as National Firewise Communities, these are Poplar Springs VFD, and the cities of Cunningham and Bardwell.

*Forest Inventory and Analysis Program*

KDF completed Cycle 5 and is currently waiting on the printed FIA report from the USFS. Currently working on the Cycle 6 - Panel 3 of the forest inventory and are 55 percent completed. Fifty-five forest health plots and 38 ozone plots for summer 2006 were been completed.

---

**For more information contact:**



**Kentucky Division of Forestry**

Leah W. MacSwords  
627 Comanche Trail  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
Ph: 502-564-4496  
Fax: 502-564-6553  
Email: [leah.macswords@ky.gov](mailto:leah.macswords@ky.gov)

**Southern Region**

Ken Arney  
USDA Forest Service  
1720 Peachtree Street, Suite 760S  
Atlanta, GA 30309  
Ph: 404-347-4178  
Fax: 404-347-4821  
Email: [karney@fs.fed.us](mailto:karney@fs.fed.us)

United  
States  
Department  
of  
Agriculture

---

*Last Updated: February 8, 2007*