

# Forest Stewardship

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become a forest steward, but to qualify for federal cost share assistance under SIP you must:

a. Be a private individual, group, association, or private corporation not involved in the manufacture of forest products.

b. Own between 5 and 1,000 acres of forestland in Pennsylvania (a waiver may be requested from the Bureau of Forestry if you own more than 1,000, but less than 5,000 acres.).

c. Have property that is forested land or suitable for growing trees (non-forested areas which will be managed under a SIP practice can also be counted as eligible acreage.).

Under SIP, landowners can implement their choice(s) of eight general practices:

**1. Landowner Forest Stewardship Plan Development:** This practice provides landowners with a multi-disciplinary, action-oriented plan they can implement on their properties. To qualify for cost-sharing, landowners must sign a pledge of intent to abide by the written plan through the period indicated.

**2. Reforestation and Afforestation:** Promoting the regrowth of our forests is essential to continued diversity; this practice encourages preparing sites for planting trees, establishing natural regeneration, controlling erosion, installing tree shelters and weed barriers, mulching, animal repellent use, fertilizing, and fencing.

**3. Forest and Agroforest Improvement:** This practice helps landowners improve the overall health of the forest through selective cutting. Planting desirable

species, noncommercial thinning, removing competing vines, and fertilizing and fencing are also included.

**4. Soil and Water Protection and Improvement:** Maintaining and improving soil and water quality and preventing erosion are the objectives here. Cost sharing is available for establishing permanent vegetative cover; designing and laying out forest roads, stream crossings and drainage systems; installing water diversion devices, fertilizing, and fencing.

**5. Riparian and Wetland Protection and Improvement:** The purpose of this practice is to protect, restore, and improve wetlands and riparian areas. Cost-share assistance is available for establishing forest buffers, restoring original hydrology, stabilizing streambanks, establishing permanent vegetative cover, fertilizing, and fencing.

**6. Fisheries Habitat Enhancement:** This practice helps enhance fish habitat by providing incentives for constructing and installing habitat improvement and stocking structures, modifying habitats for threatened and endangered aquatic species, establishing in-stream woody debris, enhancing existing food supplies, providing spawning areas, and fencing.

**7. Wildlife Habitat Enhancement:** This practice assists wildlife habitat improvement efforts by providing monies for planting cover for wildlife, creating forest openings, controlling weed species, thinning forested areas, installing tree shelters, creating snags, establishing wildlife water facilities and wildlife corridors, building artificial cavities, nest



Landowners working to maintain and harvest trees on their property should seek the advice of a qualified forester, in order to protect the value and profits in forestland. However, most of the state's landowners open their forests to tree cutters, rather than qualified forest managers.

boxes, roost poles, or platforms. Also included are establishing threatened or endangered species of flora, and modifying habitat for those species.

**8. Forest Recreation Enhancement:** This practice serves to enhance activities such as hiking, skiing, horseback riding, hunting, fishing, mushroom picking, and more. Approved practices include establishing permanent cover, establishing paths and trails, reducing stand density, pruning, and fencing to protect historic properties.

For each of the eight practices,

cost-share rates may not exceed 75 percent of the cost of establishing the practice. Participating landowners may receive reimbursement of up to \$10,000 annually for the cost of implementation. The only stipulation is that the landowner must promise to maintain the practice for a minimum of 10 years. If the property is sold, the buyer must agree to maintain the practice, too. If the practice is altered, landowners will be responsible for reimbursing the government for monies they received as cost-share.

**How To Receive Assistance**

If you want to receive future forest stewardship publications, call The Stewardship Hotline at 1-800-235-WISE, and specify that you want to be added to the mailing list.

For specific on-site questions call your State Bureau of Forestry service forester. Your service forester will assist you in gathering information about your property and determining your objectives, and will then refer you to appropriate stewardship resource professionals in your area.

You must agree to use a stewardship resource professional to develop a Forest Stewardship Plan, which will serve as your management guide. Remember, under the Stewardship Incentive Program, landowners can obtain

cost-sharing to cover 75 percent of the cost of developing this plan.

To apply for SIP cost-sharing, contact the ASCS office nearest you.

Many practices may be eligible that aren't listed in this brief overview, so don't hesitate to contact your state forester or The Stewardship Hotline.

No two people want exactly the same things from their forestlands. The wealth of resources our state is gifted with makes the possibilities endless. With a little time and effort, you can transform your forestland into a natural community thriving with life.

The investment you make now will pay for itself 100 times over in the future, either in monetary terms or in satisfaction with what you have accomplished for yourself, your children, and the environment.

You can do your part in keeping our state and our nation clean, healthy, and beautiful. As Aldo Leopold wrote, "A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise."

Through the Pennsylvania Forest Stewardship Program, you can do the right thing and help make our forestlands someplace our children can be proud of!

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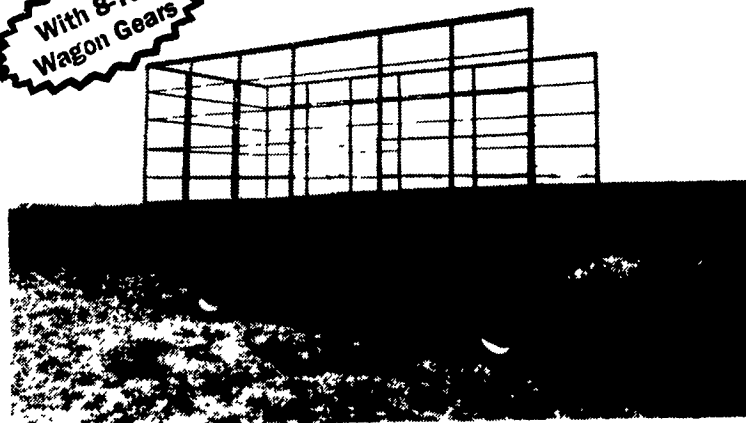
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AIR VELOCITY TABLE		
Distance From Fan (feet)	Barn Kooler® Air Velocity (ft. per min.)	36" Panel Fan Air Velocity (ft. per min.)
20'	890	780
40'	565	475
60'	390	300
80'	315	240

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