



Michigan's Forest Stewardship Program

Mike Smalligan

Forest Stewardship Coordinator

Department of Natural Resources - Forest Resources Division

Overview

- What is the Forest Stewardship Program?
- How to develop a Forest Stewardship Plan?
- How to find a Forester?
- Why get a Forest Stewardship Plan?
- Gateway to other Programs and Opportunities

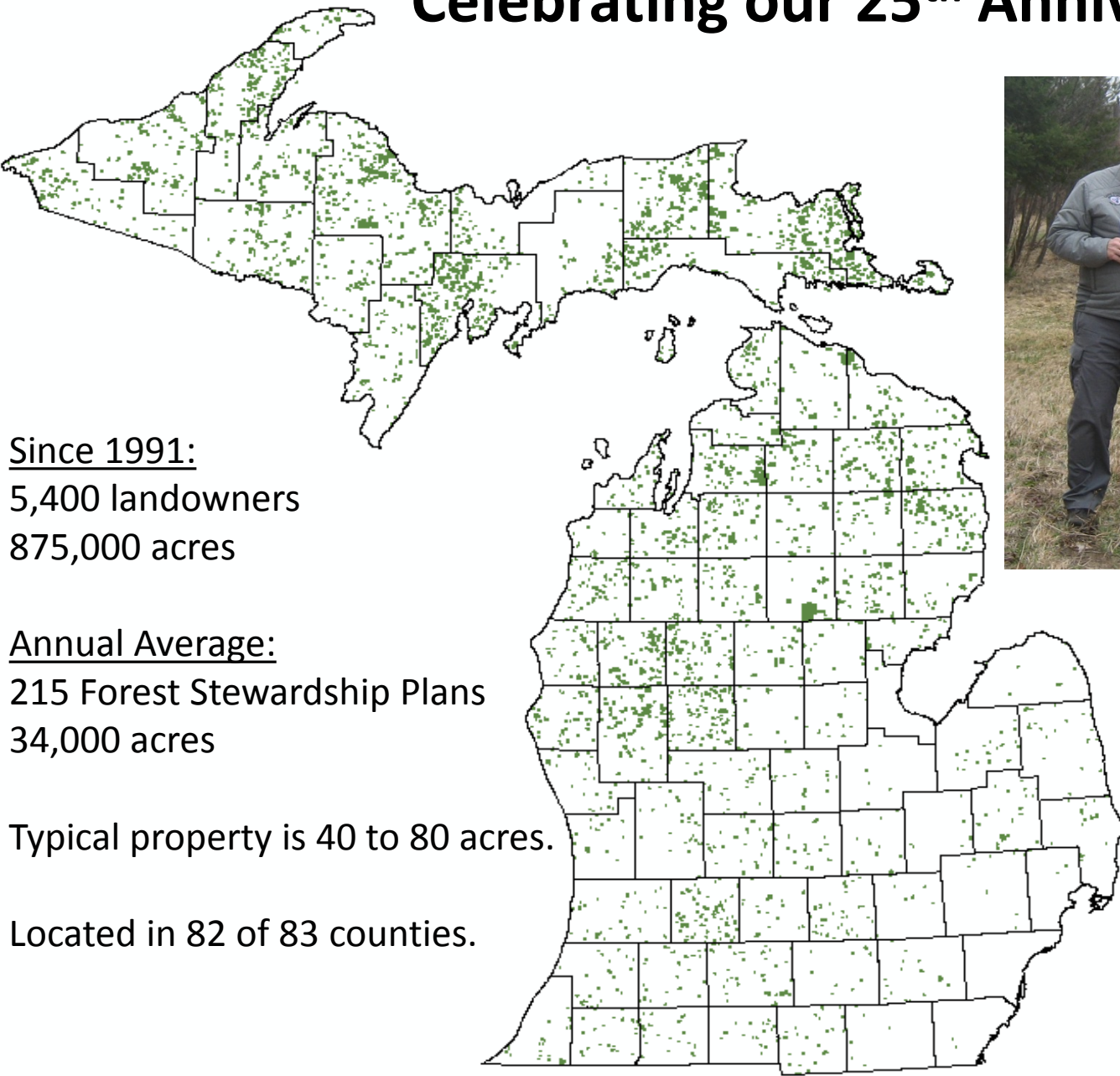


What is the Forest Stewardship Program?

- Core Purpose:
 - help landowners manage, protect, and *enjoy* their forest
- Connections:
 - landowners with a professional forester
 - to develop a Forest Stewardship Plan
 - to help landowners achieve their personal goals for their land
- Partnerships:
 - USFS
 - DNR
 - 125 private sector foresters
 - Landowners
 - Many others....



Celebrating our 25th Anniversary!



Since 1991:
5,400 landowners
875,000 acres

Annual Average:
215 Forest Stewardship Plans
34,000 acres

Typical property is 40 to 80 acres.

Located in 82 of 83 counties.






Frost Middle School in Livonia – the first Forest Stewardship Plan in Wayne County!

How to develop a Forest Stewardship Plan?


1. Call several foresters
2. Walk in the woods with your forester
3. Fill out the easy 2 page application
4. Give input to your forester
5. Review the plan
 - goals, inventory, recommendations
6. Forester submits plan to DNR for review and cost share payment
7. Implement your Forest Stewardship Plan
 - fun work in the woods!

**FOREST STEWARDSHIP PLAN
FOR
ONTONAGON COUNTY FORESTLAND**




Landowner: Ontonagon County, Michigan
725 Greenland Road
Ontonagon, Michigan 49953
(906) 884-4255

Property location is depicted on maps included in plan.



Prepared By: Michael F. Schreiber & Rexx A. Janowiak, ACF

Green Timber Consulting Foresters, Inc.
11521 DesRochers Road
Pelkie, Michigan 49958
(906) 353-8584 or (906) 281-4832
gffc@up.net
www.greentimberforestry.com
March 15th, 2014

 Green Timber Consulting Foresters, Inc.

How to find a Forester?



Michigan Department of Natural Resources

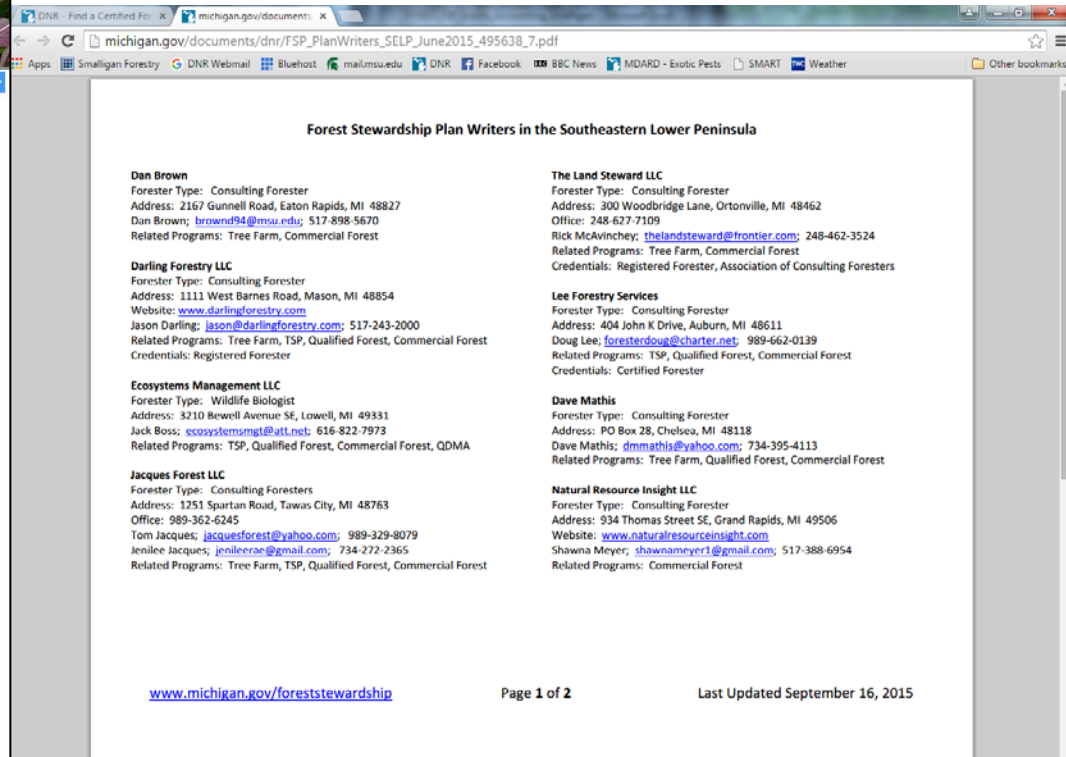
Navigation: DNR > FORESTRY > PRIVATE FOREST LAND PROGRAMS > FOREST STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Find a Certified Forest Stewardship Plan Writer



The map displays Michigan's counties grouped into seven Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) regions, each color-coded and labeled with an acronym:

- WUP (Western Upper Peninsula):** Keweenaw, Ontonagon, Gogebic, Houghton, Baraga.
- GUP (Great Lakes Upper Peninsula):** Marquette, Alger, Delta, Mackinac, Schoolcraft, Luce, Chippewa.
- EUP (Eastern Upper Peninsula):** Mackinac, Chippewa.
- NWLP (Northwestern Lower Peninsula):** Leelanau, Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Presque Isle, Montmorency, Emmet.
- NELP (North Eastern Lower Peninsula):** Montmorency, Alpena.
- SWLP (Southwestern Lower Peninsula):** Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Crawford, Oscoda, Alcona, Mason, Lake, Manistee, Missaukee, Roscommon, Ogemaw, Isosco, Mason, Lake, Oscoda, Clare, Gladwin, Arenac.
- SELP (Southeastern Lower Peninsula):** Huron, Tuscola, Sanilac, Muskegon, Oceana, Newaygo, Mecosta, Isabella, Midland, Barry, Saginaw, Lapeer, Saint Clair, Montcalm, Gratiot, Shiawassee, Genesee, Macomb, Allegan, Barry, Eaton, Ingham, Livingston, Oakland, Van Buren, Kalamazoo, Calhoun, Jackson, Washtenaw, Wayne, Berrien, Cass, Saint Joseph, Branch, Hillsdale, Lenawee, Monroe.



Forest Stewardship Plan Writers in the Southeastern Lower Peninsula

Dan Brown
Forester Type: Consulting Forester
Address: 2167 Gunnell Road, Eaton Rapids, MI 48827
Dan Brown; brownrd94@msu.edu; 517-898-5670
Related Programs: Tree Farm, Commercial Forest

Darling Forestry LLC
Forester Type: Consulting Forester
Address: 1111 West Barnes Road, Mason, MI 48854
Website: www.darlingforestry.com
Jason Darling; jason@darlingforestry.com; 517-243-2000
Related Programs: Tree Farm, TSP, Qualified Forest, Commercial Forest
Credentials: Registered Forester

Ecosystems Management LLC
Forester Type: Wildlife Biologist
Address: 3210 Bewell Avenue SE, Lowell, MI 49331
Jack Boss; ecosystemsmgt@att.net; 616-822-7973
Related Programs: TSP, Qualified Forest, Commercial Forest, QDMA

Jacques Forest LLC
Forester Type: Consulting Foresters
Address: 1251 Spartan Road, Tawas City, MI 48763
Office: 989-362-6245
Tom Jacques; jacquesforest@yahoo.com; 989-329-8079
Jenilee Jacques; jenleerae@gmail.com; 734-272-2365
Related Programs: Tree Farm, TSP, Qualified Forest, Commercial Forest

The Land Steward LLC
Forester Type: Consulting Forester
Address: 300 Woodbridge Lane, Ortonville, MI 48462
Office: 248-627-7109
Rick McAvinchey; thelandsteward@frontier.com; 248-462-3524
Related Programs: Tree Farm, Commercial Forest
Credentials: Registered Forester, Association of Consulting Foresters

Lee Forestry Services
Forester Type: Consulting Forester
Address: 404 John K Drive, Auburn, MI 48611
Doug Lee; forestdoug@charter.net; 989-662-0139
Related Programs: TSP, Qualified Forest, Commercial Forest
Credentials: Certified Forester

Dave Mathis
Forester Type: Consulting Forester
Address: PO Box 28, Chelsea, MI 48118
Dave Mathis; dmmathis@yahoo.com; 734-395-4113
Related Programs: Tree Farm, Qualified Forest, Commercial Forest

Natural Resource Insight LLC
Forester Type: Consulting Forester
Address: 934 Thomas Street SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506
Website: www.naturalresourceinsight.com
Shawna Meyer; shawnamyer1@gmail.com; 517-388-6954
Related Programs: Commercial Forest

www.michigan.gov/foreststewardship Page 1 of 2 Last Updated September 16, 2015

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Why develop a Forest Stewardship Plan?



"My Forest Stewardship Plan helps me manage, protect and enjoy my forest."

www.michigan.gov/foreststewardship • 517-284-5884

Benefits of Investing in a Forest Stewardship Plan

- Manage
 - Lower your property taxes
 - Financial assistance to implement conservation practices
 - Plan your next timber harvest to *optimize* profits
 - Lower your capital gains taxes during the next timber sale
- Protect
 - Improve your forest with a timber sale rather than degrade it
 - Forest health issues like insects, disease, invasive plants
 - Best Management Practices to protect soil & water resources
 - Fire prevention, carbon sequestration, important sites
- Enjoy!
 - Wildlife habitat for hunting & viewing
 - Aesthetics
 - Trails for recreation
 - Forest management is FUN!

www.michigan.gov/foreststewardship



Gateway to other Programs and Opportunities

- General Forestry Information
- Forest Management Plans
- Property Tax Incentives
- Financial Assistance
- Forest Certification
- Working Forest Easements
- Wildlife Habitat



Forest Stewardship Program - More than Plans...

- **Grant Projects**

- Training Foresters to Enhance the Management of Private Forest Land
 - Partnership with NRCS to train public and private sector foresters
- Landscape Stewardship Plans
 - The Nature Conservancy, Huron Pines, The Stewardship Network
- Reducing Runoff in the Dead River Watershed
 - Superior Watershed Partnership is planting 2,500 trees in Marquette

- **Proposed Grants**

- “Foresters for Fish!”
 - Trout Unlimited, Tree Farm, Consulting Foresters, Timbermen
- Landscape Stewardship Plans on Tribal Lands
 - Sault Tribe, Bay Mills Tribe





Questions?

Mike Smalligan

Forest Stewardship Coordinator

www.michigan.gov/foreststewardship

smalliganm@michigan.gov or (517) 284 - 5884

Department of Natural Resources - Forest Resources Division

Extra slides

What is Forest Stewardship?

Forest stewardship is ...

- intentional human *activities*
- performed in accordance with your *plan*
- to accomplish your broad *goals* and specific objectives
- that *improve* your forest for the following generations

Forest stewardship is ...

- a *long-term* process
- guided by forestry *science* and environmental *ethics*
- to become a better *manager* of your forest



“Your woodlot is, in fact, a historical document that faithfully records your personal philosophy. Let it tell a story of tolerance toward living things, and of skill in the greatest arts: how to use the earth without making it ugly.”

(Aldo Leopold, 1937 radio address)

Two Options for Forest Management Plans



- Forest Stewardship Program

- Partial cost share is “\$225 + \$0.50/acre up to \$2,500”
 - \$245 for 40 acres, \$265 for 80 acres (total fees much higher)
- Cost share and plans are available all year
- www.michigan.gov/foreststewardship

- Natural Resources Conservation Service

- Financial assistance is much higher
 - \$624 for <50 acres and \$884 for 50-100 acres
- Financial assistance is distributed at limited times
- www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/mi/technical/landuse/forestry/



So How Does a Landowner Choose?

- Professional:
 - Who do you want to work with? Do they share your management philosophy?
 - Consulting forester? Or procurement forester? or wildlife biologist?
 - Costs and quality of work vary greatly among forest management plan writers
 - interview several foresters - ask for references and a previous plan to review
- Program:
 - What program is best for you and your forest?
 - Do you want a plan that barely meets minimum requirements or greatly exceeds requirements?
- Timing:
 - What are the deadlines for program applications?
 - Commercial Forest application deadline is April 1 for benefits in the following year
 - Qualified Forest application deadline is September 1 for benefits in the following year
 - NRCS sign up period for the year ends in the spring and contracts not available until late summer
 - Forest Stewardship Program (FSP) cost share is available all year
- Cost:
 - FSP has average cost share, and easy to obtain through your plan writer
 - NRCS has high cost share, but more effort for landowner to obtain a contract with government
 - Tree Farm plan can be free, but you get what you pay for...
 - CF and QF have different fees (one time vs annual) and very different tax benefits

Have Some FUN in Your Forest!

1. Learn to identify plants, trees, and forests
2. Minimize your frustrations
3. Invest in a forest management plan
4. Share your knowledge with others
5. Buy another chainsaw
6. Take lots of pictures
7. Increase your income
8. Reduce your expenses
9. Expand your forest
10. Start your own seedlings
11. Spend more time in your woods
12. Plant a wildlife food plot
13. Have a family meeting
14. Listen to your forest



Contact Information

- Forest Stewardship Program
 - Administered by the Department of Natural Resources
 - Website: www.michigan.gov/foreststewardship
 - Program Contact: Mike Smalligan; 517-284-5884; smalliganm@michigan.gov
- Qualified Forest Program
 - Administered by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
 - Website: www.michigan.gov/qfp
 - Program Contact: Scott Zeeb; 517-284-5630; MDARD-QFP@michigan.gov
- Commercial Forest Program
 - Administered by the Department of Natural Resources
 - Website: www.michigan.gov/commercialforest
 - Program Contact: Shirley Businski; 517-284-5849; businskis@michigan.gov
- Environmental Quality Incentives Program
 - Administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service
 - Website: www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/mi/technical/landuse/forestry/
 - Program Contact: Andy Henriksen; 517-324-5234; andy.henriksen@mi.usda.gov
- American Tree Farm System
 - Administered by the American Forest Foundation
 - Website: www.treefarmssystem.org/michigan
 - Program Contact: Scott Robbins; 517-853-8880; srobbins@michiganforest.com