

COMMUNITY FOREST & OPEN SPACE CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Empowering Communities for Forest Conservation

A new Forest Service program, in the **2008 Farm Bill**, will help American communities conserve threatened forests for watershed protection, outdoor recreation, wildlife habitat and sustainable forest management.

Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program:

- will enable communities to acquire forest areas that are economically, culturally, and environmentally important to that locality and that are threatened by conversion to non-forest uses,
- will establish forests to be owned by communities,
- will have a management plan subject to a public process,
- will provide technical assistance to communities for community forest management, and,
- will be established under the U.S. Forest Service system and in cooperation with appropriate state and local units of government.



The Threat:

- over 40 million acres are expected to be converted from forestlands to developments by 2030,
- the top fifteen watersheds in the nation that are projected for development are located and will have significant impacts on eastern forests,
- few communities have the necessary capacity to conserve forestlands that protect their water supply, support a timber-based economy, or enhance recreational opportunities, scenic beauty and quality of life for local residents.

Community forests can provide an increasingly urban and suburban population with opportunities to enjoy forests close to home. These forests are essential for future generations to enjoy.

**The Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program is supported
by sportsmen groups and many others:**

- ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES
- FLORIDA WILDLIFE FEDERATION
- GEORGIA WILDLIFE FEDERATION
- IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA—NATIONAL
- IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA—IOWA DIVISION
- MINNESOTA CONSERVATION FEDERATION
- MISSISSIPPI WILDLIFE FEDERATION
- NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION
- NEW JERSEY FEDERATION OF SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS
- NEW YORK STATE CONSERVATION COUNCIL
- SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE FEDERATION
- TEXAS CONSERVATION ALLIANCE
- TROUT UNLIMITED
- VERMONT FEDERATION OF SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS
- WILDLIFE MISSISSIPPI

- ALLIANCE FOR SUSTAINABLE JOBS AND THE ENVIRONMENT (EUREKA, CA)
- AMERICAN FORESTS
- APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB
- APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONSERVANCY
- ASSOCIATION OF FISH & WILDLIFE AGENCIES
- AUDUBON
- BBW & ASSOCIATES, PROFESSIONAL FORESTERS (CA)
- BLACKFOOT CHALLENGE, OVANDO MT
- BUCK CREEK GUIDE SERVICE, CONDON MT
- CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
- CENTRAL OREGON INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL (REDMOND, OR)
- CITY OF ARCATA, ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT (CA)
- COLORADO WILD
- COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE, BALTIMORE MD
- CONSERVATION NORTHWEST
- DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE
- EASTERN FOREST PARTNERSHIP
- ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE
- ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION INFORMATION CENTER (CA)
- ENOSBURGH CONSERVATION COMMISSION (VT)
- EPIC- ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION INFORMATION CENTER
- FLATHEAD ECONOMIC POLICY CENTER, COLUMBIA FALLS MT
- FORESTS FOREVER
- FORESTS FOREVER FOUNDATION
- FOREST GUILD (SANTA FE, NM)
- FOREST GUILD
- HIGHLANDS COALITION (PA, NJ, NY, CT)

- FOREVERGREEN FORESTRY (EUREKA, CA)
- FRAMING OUR COMMUNITY (ELK CITY, ID)
- GIFFORD PINCHOT TASK FORCE (PORTLAND, OR)
- GREAT OLD BROADS FOR WILDERNESS
- HUDSON HIGHLANDS LAND TRUST (NY)
- KLAMATH FOREST ALLIANCE KENT LAND TRUST (CT)
- LANCASTER COUNTY CONSERVANCY (PA)
- MISSISSIPPI LAND TRUST
- MISSOULA COUNTY RURAL INITIATIVES
- MOUNT ADAMS RESOURCE STEWARDS (GLENWOOD, WA)
- NATIONAL NETWORK OF FOREST PRACTITIONERS
- NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL
- NEW JERSEY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION
- NEW JERSEY HIGHLANDS COALITION
- NEW YORK STATE CONSERVATION COUNCIL
- NORTH WOODS FORESTRY (VT)
- NORTH CENTRAL WASHINGTON AUDUBON SOCIETY
- NORTHCOAST REGIONAL LAND TRUST (CA)
- NORTHEAST AREA ASSOCIATION OF STATE FORESTERS
- NORTHERN FOREST ALLIANCE
- NORTHWEST CONNECTIONS (CONDON, MT)
- NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION-VIRGINIA PROGRAM OFFICE
- OUTDOOR INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION
- PACIFIC FOREST TRUST
- PINCHOT INSTITUTE
- REPUBLICANS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
- SCENIC HUDSON, INC. (NY)
- SHEEP MOUNTAIN ALLIANCE
- SISKIYOU PROJECT (OR)
- SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN BIODIVERSITY PROJECT
- SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN FOREST COALITION
- SPOKANE MOUNTAINEERS, INC
- SUSTAINABLE NORTHWEST (PORTLAND, OR)
- SWAN ECOSYSTEM CENTER (CONDON, MT)
- THE CONSERVATION FUND
- THE CONSERVATION TRUST FOR FLORIDA
- THE LANDS COUNCIL
- THE NATURE CONSERVANCY
- THE WATERSHED RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTER, HAYFORK CA
- THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY
- TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND
- VERMONT TOWN FOREST PROJECT
- WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA ALLIANCE
- WALLAWA RESOURCES, ENTERPRISE (OR)
- WEEKS BAY FOUNDATION
- YELLOW WOOD ASSOCIATES, INC. (VT)