



FOREST PROGRAMS & RESOURCES

As a Washington state forest landowner, there are many local, state, & federal programs, resources, and forestry professionals who are available to assist you with achieving your stewardship goals and objectives. Get started strengthening your network by perusing the resources and organizations below.

FOREST PLANNING ASSISTANCE

Care to seek ideas and resources on how you could manage your forest for long-term health, wildlife habitat, aesthetics, or timber? Forest planning staff both at your local conservation and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources Small Forest Landowner Field Office are available for site visits, as well as phone and email consultation. Visit www.betterground.org and www.dnr.wa.gov/sflo for additional information.



EDUCATION, CLASSES & CONSULTANT DIRECTORIES

The faculty and staff of Washington State University Extension Forestry offer a wide variety of objective, research-based forest stewardship classes, publications, and online resources at their website. Additionally, the online Washington State Consulting Forester and Silvicultural Contractor Directory can help you locate private sector silvicultural professionals to help you implement forest practices.





BENEFICIAL TAX PROGRAMS FOR ELIGIBLE FOREST LAND

There are two primary current use taxation programs in most of Washington's counties that offer an incentive - a property tax reduction - to landowners to voluntarily conserve forestland on their property. The Public Benefit Rating System is suited for landowners wanting to protect or restore open space resources on their property, while the Designated Forest Land Program focuses on the sustainable management of commercial timber stands. To learn more, visit the WA Department of Revenue website or read this tax guide on open space at bit.ly/3eo0ifu.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR FOREST PRACTICES

Managing your forest can sometimes take more time, energy, and money than one has available. That's where the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service "EQIP" Program might help. The Environmental Quality Incentives Program provides eligible landowners with financial and technical assistance to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits to their forest land. Visit the EQIP page under Financial Assistance on the NRCS website for more information.

CONSERVATION EASEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Interested in preserving your forest so that future generations will be able to enjoy it as you have? Conservation easements are voluntary agreements that permanently limit the uses of land in order to protect certain conservation values.

Whether a landowner sells or donates the development rights on their property, conservation easements enable them to be fairly compensated for their land's development potential. Learn more about conservation easements at the Washington Association of Land Trust's website.



WANT HELP GETTING STARTED?

Conservation Districts work cooperatively with thousands of landowners a year to provide free services on private property. Find your local District at www.betterground.org