COOPERATING FORESTER PROGRAM

Revised July 2023
Forestry Assistance from DEC, Consulting and Industrial Foresters

Why use the assistance of a forester in the management of your property?

A professional forester can help you achieve your ownership goals. A forester can recommend forestry practices and assist you in their implementation to secure the benefits you desire while enhancing the condition and value of your woodland.

Management practices can impact forest land and associated resources for a long time. Informed landowners are in a position to make careful and wise land management decisions. Professional foresters can be valuable to owners making long-range or large-scale decisions, advising of alternative management strategies, assisting in implementation of forestry activities and answering questions.

Owners may be hesitant to invest in such services, yet the professional assistance a landowner receives will frequently pay for itself by increasing financial returns and other benefits from their forest land.

If you plan to sell timber, a harvest almost always generates more income when a forester assists with the marketing. A forester can provide detailed recommendations to help ensure that the residual forest conditions are in line with ownership objectives. A forester can provide an appropriate sale contract and sale administration. During the timber harvest, the forester can periodically inspect the logging, a critical step in managing your woodland.

What is a Forester?

A forester is a specialist with advanced education, using his or her abilities and knowledge of forestry and natural sciences to provide professional forestry services to private individuals, corporate and government entities. Professional ethics expects allegiance to the employer.

A consultant forester works in the private sector providing services on a fee or contingency basis, not employed by a forest industry with no direct economic interest in a timber procurement or purchasing entity.

An industrial forester may work for a wood using manufacturer or may have an economic interest in a timber purchasing or procurement entity. Industrial foresters may provide professional services to forest owners on a fee basis or other consideration such as a right of first refusal to purchase timber products that may be offered for sale from an owner’s property.

DEC service foresters are located throughout the state, providing help to forest owners upon request. They can help you get started in managing your forest land.

DEC foresters provide expert assistance and free advice however they have limited time to provide extensive personal service. Private foresters on the other hand can, for a fee or other consideration provide comprehensive service as needed, complementing assistance from DEC. Your decision to initially work with a DEC forester or a private forester will depend upon the type of service, the complexity of the job and how soon you require assistance.

Many Cooperating Foresters are in a position to provide a wide array of forestry services to their clientele while others may concentrate their efforts or specialize in certain areas. You should discuss your specific needs with a private forester to determine if he or she offers those services desired.

The following lists include some of the services offered by DEC and private foresters:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEC Foresters can provide</th>
<th>Private Forester can provide</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>♦ Forest management guidance (woodland inspection, defining objectives, publications)</td>
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<tr>
<td>♦ Comprehensive written forest management plans that address sustainable forestry goals for timber, wildlife, recreation, soil &amp; water resources, endangered resources and other concerns</td>
<td>♦ Comprehensive written forest management plans that address sustainable forestry goals for timber, wildlife, recreation, soil &amp; water resources, endangered resources and other concerns</td>
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<tr>
<td>♦ Timber harvest and marketing advice</td>
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<td>♦ Technical and administrative assistance for cost share assistance programs</td>
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<td>♦ Forest Tax Law program administration</td>
<td>♦ Forest Tax Law program administration</td>
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<td>♦ Tree and shrub planting recommendations</td>
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<td>♦ Forestry education through workshops, school programs, publications and public speaking</td>
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<td>♦ Forest health recommendations</td>
<td>♦ Forest health recommendations</td>
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<td>♦ Provide Cooperating Forester Directory</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Services Offered by Cooperating Foresters

- Comprehensive written forest management plans that address sustainable forestry goals for timber, wildlife, recreation, soil & water resources, endangered resources and other concerns
- Forest Tax Law plans
- Timber sales - planning, preparation, contracts, administration & supervision
- Forest product marketing
- Timber tax counseling - Tax form T, estate planning, capital gains
- Forest inventory
- Appraisals - land, timber, damage, theft
- Forest stand improvement
- Tree planting
- Boundary maintenance
- Christmas tree management
- Environmental assessment and impact studies
- Logging engineering
- Computer mapping and GIS services
- Urban and community forestry services
- Recreational lease advice and recreation planning & development
- Forest pest control
- Watershed protection and management
- Wildlife habitat management
- Litigation and expert testimony services

What is the DEC Cooperating Forester program?

The Cooperating Forester program is sponsored by the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to encourage landowners to work with a forester in managing their woodlands. It is a cooperative effort between DEC and private foresters to inform landowners of the availability of assistance in the private sector and establish a system to help owners access such help. Forest owners and others in need of assistance, beyond what DEC is able to render, are provided a Directory of Cooperating Foresters. They then may contact foresters directly to solicit professional services.

Cooperating Forester program participants have at least a Bachelors degree in forest management or associated discipline from an institution accredited by the Society of American Foresters and professional experience in forestry. They have voluntarily agreed to meet the standards of professional conduct and responsibilities prescribed by the Department's cooperative program, to serve the needs of persons referred to the program. Consultant and industrial foresters are recognized for purposes of this program.

DEC has agreed to maintain a Directory of Cooperating Foresters, encourage landowners to use services offered by Cooperating Foresters, promote communication between the DEC and program participants and evaluate effectiveness of the program.

How do I select a Cooperating Forester to assist me?

In selecting a Cooperating Forester to work with you, choose an individual who you feel comfortable with, knowing that he or she will serve you and represent your best interests in matters concerning your woodland. Determine your specific needs and the services required to meet them. Contact a number of foresters that work in your geographic area, requesting a brief proposal outlining the service they can provide to meet your individual needs. Check the forester’s references.

The knowledge and experience of foresters varies widely. There are no legal standards governing foresters in New York State. Inclusion in the Cooperating Forester Directory does not imply endorsement.

Make sure you have an executed contract or a letter of agreement signed by both parties that spells out the services that are to be provided, when and for what cost.
You may wish to consider the following in selecting a Cooperating Forester:

- Affiliations with professional organizations (such as Society of American Foresters or Association of Consulting Foresters) whose members meet certain educational and ethical standards
- Years and types of experience
- Education
- Attitude
- Reliability - references from clients
- Fee structures - hourly, percentage, per acre, job basis
- Cost estimate
- Insurance - liability & workers compensation
- Availability throughout your project
- Willingness to listen to your objectives
- Special skills
- Recommendations from others who have used such services

What are some affiliations or certifications that a forester may have?

Many of the Cooperating Foresters listed in the directory are affiliated with several professional organizations. A short description of each is provided and those foresters who are members are so designated in the directory.

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NYICF - New York Institute of Consulting Foresters
is an organization of professional consulting foresters in New York State. The Institute was founded in 1978 to provide continuing education to its members, interface with the Department of Environmental Conservation on behalf of all consulting foresters in New York and offer an outreach program to the forest owners in the state.

SAF CF - Society of American Foresters Certified Forester
The Society of American Foresters (SAF) established the Certified Forester program to recognize, serve and support forestry professionals. The Certified Forester program is voluntary, non-governmental and open to qualified SAF members and nonmembers. A Certified Forester agrees to abide by current program requirements and procedures established for certification, to maintain continuing professional development and to conduct all forestry practices in a responsible, professional manner consistent with state and federal regulations governing environmental quality and forest management practices. Further information on the Certified Forester program is available on the SAF website, www.safnet.org.

ACF - Association of Consulting Foresters
The Association of Consulting Foresters is organized into state or multi-state chapters located in most forested regions of the U.S. ACF members operate in corporations, partnerships and sole proprietorships. Objectives of the Association include: protection of the public welfare and property in the practice of forestry, raising the professional standards and work of ACF and other consulting foresters, develop and expand the services of ACF consultants to the public and to serve as a forum for exchange of information. Further information about the ACF is available at its website, www.acf-foresters.com.

What about insurance?

In selecting a Cooperating Forester, it should prove valuable to ask the individual to provide details about his or her insurance coverage. New York State Law requires that employees be covered by Workers Compensation and Disability insurance.

- Workers Compensation Insurance - Provides benefits, as specified by state law, to employees for work related injuries or illnesses. Covered expenses typically include medical benefits such as doctor, hospital and surgical costs; related healthcare costs such as physical therapy and vocational rehabilitation; disability income benefits and death benefits.
- General Liability Insurance - Protects business owners and operators from lawsuits alleging bodily injury or property damage.
Of what benefit is a forester when I sell timber?

A harvest almost always generates more income when a forester assists you in marketing. A forester can help you plan the harvest to protect and enhance the other values of your land that are important and may be detailed in your management plan such as aesthetics, water quality, wildlife habitat, forest health and forest productivity as well as optimizing your financial return on the timber. They can provide information on the tax implications of your timber sale.

A consulting forester can offer a wide range of services and can handle most jobs from start to finish. Or, they may handle only part of the job if you so choose. An independent, private consulting forester works for you, the landowner, not for a timber buyer or the government. A consultant can serve as your agent in a variety of technical matters related to management of your woodland.

Although an industrial forester’s first obligation is to the forester’s employing company, many offer high quality assistance beneficial to landowners. It is to forest industry’s advantage to develop long term trusting relationships where landowners want a firm to come back time and again to harvest their timber. To develop a lasting relationship, companies may offer comprehensive services and good prices for the timber they purchase.

How much will services from a Cooperating Forester cost?

Fees charged by foresters vary considerably and change overtime as do other business costs. Therefore, this publication does not include specific rates.

Most consultants have a range of rates depending upon the forestry service to be provided, the property size, travel distance and time required. They may charge by the hour, day, acre or the job. With timber sales, consultants often charge by a percentage of the gross sale income. Landowners are strongly encouraged to compare costs based on different fee calculations; hour, day, acre, job or percentage. Some consultants may have a minimum fee for specific services.

Industrial foresters may not charge a monetary fee but may request other consideration for services rendered such as the right of first refusal to bid on your timber when you have a harvest.

Often landowners question if the benefits of hiring a forester are worth the costs. For many the answer is yes. Research from a number of states shows that professional forestry assistance produces higher timber sale returns and higher residual stand values. The forester’s fee is frequently more than offset by these higher values.

Cooperating Forester Program Policy may be viewed at the following web site:
http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5230.html

Map of DEC Regions may be viewed at the following web site:
https://www.dec.ny.gov/about/76070.html

The Department of Environmental Conservation presents this Directory for informational purposes, with no intended endorsement of particular private foresters, their qualifications or services rendered. DEC does not guarantee or warrant the performance of program participants. No criticism is implied or intended of foresters not listed. Additional foresters are available in New York, but they have not chosen to participate in the cooperative program and so are not listed in this directory.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consultant Forester</th>
<th>Consultant Forester</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baldwin, Todd R.</td>
<td>Bower, Brian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 663</td>
<td>305 CR 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shokan, NY 12481</td>
<td>Cairo, NY 12413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(845) 246-7105 – office</td>
<td>(518) 821-6156 – office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:cedarman123@hvc.rr.com">cedarman123@hvc.rr.com</a></td>
<td>(877) 782-8524 – FAX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regions served: 3 4</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bbowerforest@verizon.net">bbowerforest@verizon.net</a></td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Barkley, David</td>
<td>Boyce, Deborah A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F&amp;W Forestry Services, Inc.</td>
<td>Northwoods Forest Consultants, LLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Victor Ave.</td>
<td>P.O. Box 30, 13111 NYS Route 9N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tupper Lake, NY 12986</td>
<td>Jay, NY 12941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(518) 354-1061 – office</td>
<td>(518) 569-8913 – office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:david.barkley@fwforestry.com">david.barkley@fwforestry.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:deb@adkforester.com">deb@adkforester.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bick, Steven</td>
<td>Braun, Bernard B.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 284</td>
<td>Bernard B. Braun and Associates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thendara, NY 13472</td>
<td>P.O. Box 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(315) 369-8007 – office</td>
<td>Richmondville, NY 12149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(206) 312-0147 – FAX</td>
<td>(518) 231-2382 – office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:steve@northeastforests.com">steve@northeastforests.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:bbraun1@nycap.rr.com">bbraun1@nycap.rr.com</a></td>
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<td>Blasko, Michael</td>
<td>Brooks, Arthur L.</td>
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<td>South Central Forest Products, LLC</td>
<td>Brooks Forestry &amp; Resource Mgt. Co, LLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 6</td>
<td>549 CR 45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greene, NY 13778</td>
<td>Central Square, NY 13036</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(607) 373-9660 – office</td>
<td>(315) 676-7810 – office/FAX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:mytreez@hotmail.com">mytreez@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:art.brooks.forestry@gmail.com">art.brooks.forestry@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Boerman, Zachary</td>
<td>Brown, Craig R.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audubon NY</td>
<td>Woodland Investment Services Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Third St. Suite 480</td>
<td>2926 Powderhouse Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Troy, NY 12180</td>
<td>Corning, NY 14830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(585) 794-7584 – office</td>
<td>(607) 936-2482 – office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:zachary.boerman@audubon.org">zachary.boerman@audubon.org</a></td>
<td>(607) 936-2483 – FAX</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regions served: 4</td>
<td><a href="mailto:craig@yourwoodland.com">craig@yourwoodland.com</a></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Consultant Forester
Burns, Michael J.
P.O. Box 51
Nelliston, NY 13410
(518) 993-2815 – office
mcburns@frontier.com
Regions served: 3 4 5 6

Consultant Forester
Burpoe, Timothy
Timberland Assets & Management, LLC
92 Cherry Tree Ln.
Saranac Lake, NY 12983
(518) 354-2055 – office
timburpoe@gmail.com
Regions served: 5 6
Affiliations: SAF-CF

Consultant Forester
Chiverton, Michael J.
MC Forestry Services
607 Ole Hickory Way
Salem, NY 12865
(518) 854-7755 – office
mjchiver@gmail.com
Regions served: 3 4 5 6
Affiliations: SAF-CF

Consultant Forester
Collin, Peter A.
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Portageville, NY 14536
(585) 468-2714 – office
pcollinforestry@gmail.com
Regions served: 8 9

Consultant Forester
Cras, Patrick M.
16366 CR 90
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(315) 405-7391 – office
pcras5@gmail.com
Regions served: 6 7
Affiliations: SAF-CF

Consultant Forester
Creagan, Cory J.
Lower Hudson Forestry Services
114 South St.
Highland, NY 12528
(845) 598-4125
Regions served: 1 2 3 4
Affiliations: NYICF, SAF-CF

Consultant Forester
Curtis, James F.
CNY Forestry, LLC
349 Summerhaven Dr. N.
E. Syracuse, NY 13057
(315) 391-1798 – office
jfctreemanaol.com
Regions served: 3 4 6 7
Affiliations: SAF-CF

Consultant Forester
Del Vescovo, Anthony
ADForester
1536 Sleepy Hollow Rd. Unit 2053
Athens NY, 12015
(518) 622-3608 – office
anthony@adforester.com
Regions served: 3 4 5
Affiliations: NYICF, SAF-CF

Consultant Forester
Denham, Edward A.
New England Woodland Management, Inc.
P.O. Box 440
West Stockbridge, MA 01266
(518) 610-0313 – office
ed@woodland.net.in
Regions served: 4
Affiliations: NYICF, SAF-CF

Consultant Forester
Dowling, Dana T.
Northern Timberlands, Inc.
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Tunkhannock, PA 18657
(570) 836-5825 – office
(570) 836-5591 – FAX
northerntimberlands@gmail.com
Regions served: 3 4 7
Affiliations: SAF-CF
### DEC Cooperating Foresters

**Consultant Forester**

**Earl, Aaron J.**  
Veritas Forestry  
P.O. Box 113  
Manlius, NY 13104  
(315) 420-1934 – office  
veritasforestry@gmail.com  
Regions served: 7  
Affiliations: SAF-CF

**Industrial Forester**

**Ferguson, Joshua**  
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Regions served: 8  
Affiliations: SAF-CF

**Consultant Forester**

**Figueiredo, Corey**  
Future Forest Consulting, Inc.  
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(585) 374-2799 – office  
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corey@futureforestinc.com  
Regions served: 6 7 8 9

**Consultant Forester**

**Gearwar, Christian**  
Lake George Forestry Services, LLC  
15 Carey Rd.  
Lake George, NY 12845  
(518) 668-2623 – office  
(518) 791-6088 – cell  
lakegeorgeforestry@gmail.com  
Regions served: 3 4 5 6  
Affiliations: SAF-CF

**Consultant Forester**

**George, David**  
Empire State Forestry Service, Inc.  
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Locke, NY 13092  
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dgeorge@empirestateforestryservice.com  
Regions served: 4 6 7 8  
Affiliations: SAF-CF

**Consultant Forester**

**Gilman, Thomas**  
F&W Forestry Services, Inc.  
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Affiliations: NYICF, SAF-CF

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Regions served: 5  
Affiliations: SAF-CF

**Industrial Forester**

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upstateforestryservices@gmail.com  
Regions served: 7 8 9

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Industrial Forester
Hayes, Andrew J.
Danzer Lumber North America
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Honeoye Falls, NY 14472
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Regions Served: 7 8 9
Affiliations: SAF-CF

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Affiliations: SAF-CF

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kkane@generationsforestry.com
Regions served: 3 4 7 8 9
Affiliations: ACF, SAF-CF

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Affiliations: SAF-CF

Consultant Forester
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Affiliations: SAF-CF

Consultant Forester
Kordziel, Anthony J.
6120 S Bay Rd.
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(518) 637-7625 – office
anthonykordziel@gmail.com
Regions served: 3 4 5 6 7
Affiliations: SAF-CF

Consultant Forester
Kowalczyk, Paul N.
Pocono Forest & Wildlife Service
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Hawley, PA 18428
(570) 226-9488 – office/FAX
pnkowalczyk@pfandws.com
Regions served: 3 4
Affiliations: SAF

Consultant Forester
Kowalski, John J.
P.O. Box 427
Earville, NY 13332
(315) 691-6721 – office
Regions served: 7
Affiliations: NYICF, SAF-CF

Consultant Forester
Lamberton, Raymond “Tony”
New England Forestry Consultants, Inc.
P.O. Box 1192
Middletown Springs, VT 05757
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tlamberton@vermontel.net
Regions served: 4 5

Consultant Forester
Leonello, Andrew J.
Forestry Advisors LLC
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(315) 439-4376 – office
andy@forestryadvisorsllc.com
Regions served: 6 7
Affiliations: SAF-CF

Consultant Forester
Marchese, Peter M.
3759 Lee Rd.
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(607) 329-8560 – office
petermarchese55@gmail.com
Regions served: 5 6 7 8

Consultant Forester
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Cortland Forestry LLC
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Newman, Daniel L.
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Affiliations: SAF-CF
DEC COOPERATING FORESTERS – REVISED JULY 2023

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