

# Delaware Forest Service - Core Programs



## Our Mission

The Delaware Forest Service provides a wide range of services to help Delawareans manage and improve their forest resources. These services are divided into three categories: **conservation**, **protection**, and **enhancement**.

## Forest Stewardship/Landowner Assistance

- Most owners of nonindustrial private forests are eligible
- Keeps forests healthy while maximizing their benefits
- Provides natural resource management expertise
- Cost-share programs are also available
- Landowner assistance in:
  - Timber production
  - Wildlife habitat
  - Forest health monitoring (diseases/pests)
  - Watershed protection
  - Recreational assistance



Learn more at [de.gov/foreststewardship](https://de.gov/foreststewardship).

## Wildland Fire Program

- Minimizes fire damage through prevention and suppression activities
- Loans wildland fire suppression tools to volunteer fire companies
- Provides educational programs (Smokey Bear) for students and various public events
- Partners with the Delaware Fire School, fire companies, and U.S. Forest Service
- Other fire assistance includes:
  - Volunteer Fire Assistance
  - Volunteer Fire Assistance Grants
  - Hazard Mitigation Program
  - Prescribed Fire Program



Learn more at [de.gov/wildfire](https://de.gov/wildfire).

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## Urban & Community Forestry

- Administers technical assistance and educational programming
- Partners with various State groups, schools, colleges, and U.S. Forest Service
- Provides financial assistance to communities, municipalities, and HOA's
- Promotes and assists with tree recognition programs
- Provides volunteer opportunities at tree-planting events
- Urban forestry resources for:
  - Homeowners
  - Communities
  - Tree care professionals

Learn more at [de.gov/delawaretrees](https://de.gov/delawaretrees).



## Forest Health

- Recommend treatments to property owners
- Detect trends in the long-term health of our forests
- Diagnoses and monitors forest pests, such as:
  - Asian Longhorned Beetle, Southern Pine Beetle, Spongy Moth, Spotted Lanternfly

Learn more at [de.gov/forestpests](https://de.gov/forestpests).



## Forestry Education

- Education centers located at Redden State Forest and Blackbird State Forest
- Sponsors annual Arbor Day Poster Contest and Statewide Arbor Day Celebration
- Project Learning Tree program for students from kindergarten through grade 12
  - Award-winning program that provides resources to engage children in learning about the environment through the lens of trees and forests.

- Offers Smokey Bear programs to teach students about wildfire prevention and fire safety

Learn more at [de.gov/forestryeducation](https://de.gov/forestryeducation).

