



MT Tree Farm System Goals & Objectives For 2010

GOALS

- Use educational tools and other outreach techniques to raise public understanding of sustainable forestry.
- Ensure private landowners have current information about sustainable forest management
- Promote the training and education of Tree Farm inspectors.
- Provide funding sources to meet the needs of the Tree Farm program.
- Coordinate Montana Tree Farm Program with other forestland owner organizations.
- Monitor measure and report the performance of our members in achieving a commitment to sustainable forestry.
- Coordinate Montana Tree Farm System program activities with American Tree Farm System and American Forest Foundation programs.
- Promote cooperation with other natural resource based organizations.
- Work with landowners and cooperators to better position Montana Tree Farmers for future forest certification issues.
- Support a competitive forest products industry in the State of Montana to ensure long term viability of forest management in the state.
- Work to keep landowners informed of legislative and tax issues and help landowners become involved in the forest land policy and regulation decision making process

OBJECTIVES

- Inspect all Montana Tree Farms on a five year cycle and promote updating forest management plans.
- Re-inspect all national random sample Tree Farm inspections.
- Recruit and engage professional foresters to Tree Farm inspectors.
- Develop a budget to meet the needs of the Tree Farm program.
- Award at least one college scholarship to high school graduating seniors or current college student interested in studying forest or natural resource issues.
- Update and maintain all records on current Montana Tree Farms.
- Inform current tree farm members by publishing a periodic newsletter on key forest management issues.
- Identify funding sources to cover operating expenses not covered by program capital investment funds.
- Support continued Stewardship/Tree Farm program coordination, including development of an efficient combined Tree Farm / Stewardship re-inspection process that meets Federal Stewardship verification guidelines.
- Hold an annual meeting, recognizing outstanding tree farmers and inspectors and updating members on current forest management issues.
- Support Montana forest products infrastructure and public awareness.
- Support market development for certified wood products that recognize Tree Farm Certification.
- Support Montana Master Forest Steward program.
- Support landowner involvement in forest policy decision making processes.
- Promote participation on Tree Farm Committee.
- Participate in Third Party Audit.
- Recruit Tree Farmers to Steering Committee
- Promote tree farms as sustaining forestry,
- Maintain an active role in Biomass and Carbon Sequestration.
- Create a poster to introduce and educate the public to American Tree Farm System.