

# The Benefits of Family Forests



## Forestry in Maine

**Landcover:** Maine has over 17.7 million acres of forestland, covering 90% of the state. Maine has more forest cover than any other state in the nation.

**Ownership:** Over 5.7 million acres of Maine’s forestland are owned by 233,000 family forest owners.

**Certified Tree Farms:** There are 2,312 Tree Farmers in the state certified by the American Tree Farm System, a program of the American Forest Foundation, which account for 785,374 acres.

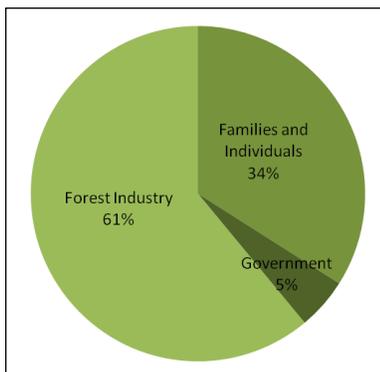
**Jobs:** The forest products industry contributes over \$4 billion to Maine’s economy, supporting more than 60,000 jobs directly and indirectly.

**Wood:** Wood provides 20% of electrical needs and 25% of Maine’s energy needs.

**Wildlife:** Maine forests support many public trust resources, including 6,000 lakes and ponds, 32,000 miles of rivers and streams, and abundant fish and wildlife—including some of the best brook trout populations in the country.

**Recreation:** There are more than 175,000 licensed hunters in Maine who benefit from well-managed forests.

State Forestland Ownership



Acreage & Ownership of Forestland for Maine

Total	Family Owned	Public	Private Industry
17,659,809	5,726,116	1,219,454	10,714,240

## National Statistics and Facts

**Landcover:** More than half (56%) of the nation’s forests are privately owned.

**Jobs:** Every 1,000 acres of private forests supports eight well-paying jobs.; each job created in private forests creates an additional 2.95 jobs.

**Carbon:** Wood building materials—the majority of which are from private forests—reduce energy use and carbon emissions in manufacturing from 70% to 88%.

**Wood:** Family forests are the economic lynchpin of small towns and rural areas around the nation.

**Water:** More than 25% of our drinking water originates in private forests.

**Wildlife:** 60% of all at-risk species rely on America’s private forests.



American Forest Foundation

*The American Forest Foundation is a non-profit organization that gives people the tools they need to be effective stewards of America’s natural heritage. We work with educators, family woodlands owners, and partners in every state to keep our forests healthy and our children well-prepared for the future they will inherit. We grow stewardship every day.*