

VERMONT'S FOREST STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Forest Stewardship is the wise management and use of our forest resources to meet the needs of today while ensuring the forest's economic and ecological health and productivity for the future.

Recognizing that our families and communities are dependent on healthy, well managed forests, Vermont's Forest Stewardship Program encourages private forestland owners to be excellent caretakers of their land. Through education, consultation, and access to cost-share programs, the Stewardship Program can help you plan for and manage your woodland so it meets your needs and provides benefits to sustain our communities.

VERMONT'S USE VALUE APPRAISAL PROGRAM

The primary objectives of this program are to keep Vermont's productive agricultural and forest land in production, protect significant ecological features, help slow the development of these lands, and achieve greater equity in property taxation on undeveloped land. The program works by taxing actively managed land at its current use value, as opposed to its fair market value. In 2008, Use Value Appraisal reduced taxes by 88% on the average enrolled acre.

If you own at least 25 contiguous acres of woodland and are interested in this program, contact your County Forester for more information.

WHY IS MANAGEMENT OF YOUR WOODLAND IMPORTANT TO THE PEOPLE OF VERMONT?

In Vermont the majority of woodland is privately owned; some 4.5 million acres. The proper care and management of this precious resource can assure all of us that the forest continues to sustain us while remaining a healthy ecosystem. What is it that the forest actually provides? A few of the critical things include:

- Forest products such as lumber, fuelwood, Christmas trees, and maple sugar
- Clean air and water
- Carbon storage
- Beneficial climate modification
- Habitat for many plants and animals
- Recreational opportunities
- Scenery

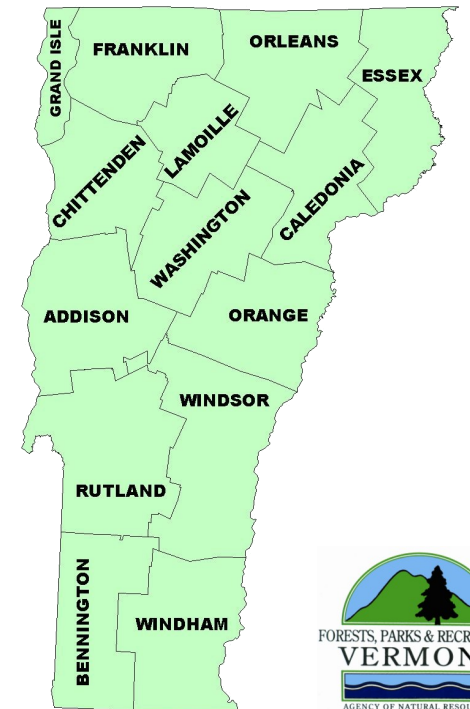
If you think these demands on our forests are high, you're right, and they are growing all the time. That is why it's so important that people who own land make sound, careful decisions about its use and management. Start on the right foot! Contact your county forester.

This brochure is available upon request in large print, braille, and audio cassette. Contact (802) 241-3651 or VTDD Relay (800) 253-0191.

MC 7/2011

County Foresters

Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation
103 South Main Street, 10 South
Waterbury, VT 05671-0601



State of Vermont
Agency of Natural Resources
Department of Forests, Parks
and Recreation

103 South Main Street, 10 South
Waterbury, VT 05671-0601
Tel: (802) 241-3678
Fax: (802) 244-1481
www.vtfpr.org

COUNTY FORESTERS

Your Vermont County Foresters are state employees available to provide information, technical assistance, and outreach to the people of Vermont about managing and stewarding forestland. County forester offices are conveniently located around the state (see listing).

Whether you are interested in timber harvesting, wildlife habitat, outdoor recreation improvements, or all of the above, your County Forester can guide you. Although limited in the amount of field work they can do for any one landowner, they can accompany you on a walk in your woods to help you discover what's there, discuss your goals and objectives for the forest, and talk about what forest management activities you might consider to meet your goals and objectives.

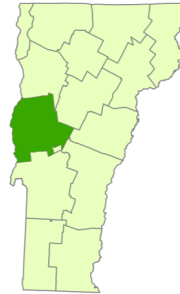
County Foresters are able to provide you with a listing of natural resource professionals who provide management services. They can update you on state and federal programs including Stewardship and Use Value Appraisal designed to assist you with your management activities.

County Foresters also often provide outreach to nonprofit organizations and schools especially outdoor walks and presentations but also including indoor discussions and displays.

**IF ANY OF THIS INTERESTS
YOU, PLEASE
CALL YOUR COUNTY
FORESTER**



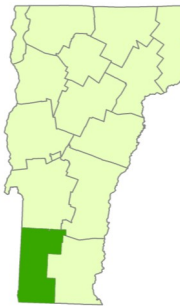
COUNTY FORESTERS



ADDISON

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BENNINGTON

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Keith Thompson

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FRANKLIN/GRAND ISLE

Nancy Patch

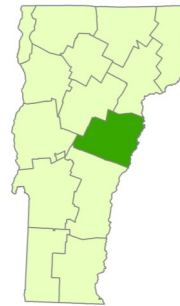
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LAMOILLE/ORLEANS

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ORANGE

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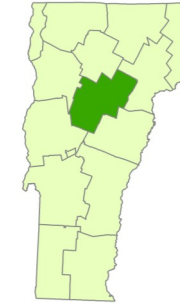
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RUTLAND

Eric Hansen

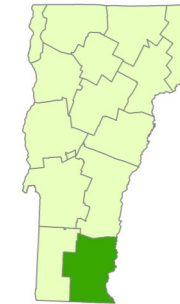
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WASHINGTON

Russ Barrett

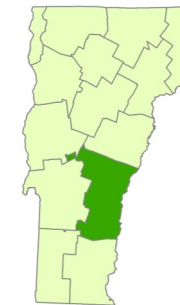
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WINDHAM

Bill Guenther

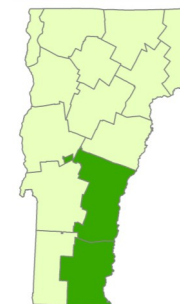
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WINDSOR

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