



Fiscal Year 2024

DCR Cost-Share Application

Forest Stewardship, Foresters for the Birds & Climate Forestry Programs

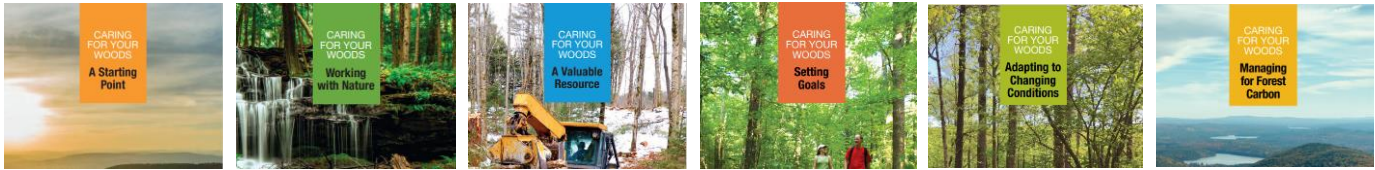
Funded through the WORKING FOREST INITIATIVE

Please complete the application and IRS Form W-9 and mail them to:
 Massachusetts Forest Stewardship Program, 355 West Boylston Street, Clinton, MA 01510, or email: michael.downey@mass.gov

CONTACT INFORMATION																								
Landowner Name(s):		Plan Preparer Name:																						
Landowner Mailing Address (street, city, state, zip):																								
Landowner Telephone Number (including area code):		Landowner E-mail:																						
PROPERTY INFORMATION																								
Total Property Acres:	Town:	Road:																						
Acres to be covered by Plan:	County:																							
CONSERVATION RESTRICTION INFORMATION (required for CR Plan Renewal Funding)																								
CR must be State Held to be eligible for CR Plan Renewal cost-share																								
Conservation Restriction Holder:		CR Book:																						
Registry District where CR is recorded:		CR Page:																						
ELIGIBILITY																								
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 5%;">YES</td> <td style="width: 5%;">NO</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>I/We are applying for Stewardship Plan Cost-Share (NEW) OR Conservation Restriction Plan Renewal Cost-Share</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>I/We are applying for Cost-Share for Bird Habitat Assessment</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>I/We are applying for Cost-Share for Climate Forestry</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>I/We have an <u>EXISTING</u> Management Plan (CH 61/ 61A /61B)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>I/We have an <u>EXISTING</u> Forest Stewardship Plan</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>I/We have a state-held CR/WPR on this property (Cost-share for CR Plan Renewal Program is only available for State Held CR/WPR)</td> </tr> </table>				YES	NO		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I/We are applying for Stewardship Plan Cost-Share (NEW) OR Conservation Restriction Plan Renewal Cost-Share	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I/We are applying for Cost-Share for Bird Habitat Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I/We are applying for Cost-Share for Climate Forestry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I/We have an <u>EXISTING</u> Management Plan (CH 61/ 61A /61B)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I/We have an <u>EXISTING</u> Forest Stewardship Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I/We have a state-held CR/WPR on this property (Cost-share for CR Plan Renewal Program is only available for State Held CR/WPR)
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[^] Cost-Share Rate up to \$120/hour																								
I/We would like an <u>additional 4 hours</u> of Technical Assistance with our consulting forester prior to our plan being written. <input type="checkbox"/>																								
I/We would like an <u>additional 2 hours</u> of Technical Assistance with our consulting forester to review our completed plan. <input type="checkbox"/>																								
LANDOWNER SIGNATURE																								
<p>Only applications with completed IRS Form W-9 and Conservation Restriction Information will be processed. Cost-share reimbursement payments are considered reportable by the IRS and must be reported on your income tax returns. The name and address submitted on the IRS Form W-9 are to whom and where the reimbursement check will be issued. IRS Form W-9 must be submitted with this cost-share application.</p> <p>Please contact the Forest Stewardship Office within thirty (30) days of application submission if you (the applicant) determine the information on the application to be incorrect or desire to withdraw your application. If you decide at any point to not have a Stewardship Plan prepared for your land, you must notify the Massachusetts Forest Stewardship Program.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Reimbursement payments are considered reportable by the IRS and must be reported on your income tax returns.</u> <u>You will receive an IRS Form 1099 for this payment.</u></p>																								
Landowner Signature			Date:																					
FOR DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY																								
Approval		Reimbursement approved (\$):																						
Acres Approved:																								
Disapproval <input type="checkbox"/> Ineligible <input type="checkbox"/> No Funds Available (keep on file)																								
Comments:																								
<input type="checkbox"/> I certify that this application meets the eligibility requirements for Working Forest Initiative Funding and the MA Forest Stewardship Program.																								
DCR AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE:		DATE:																						

Forest Stewardship Program

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR) **Forest Stewardship Program** supports your commitment to the caring of your woodlands. Our program is designed to reduce the likelihood of the development of forestland by encouraging active forest management while fostering a deeper understanding of your woodland through a ten-year management plan written by a **Massachusetts Licensed Forester**.



Who is eligible?

- Landowners with woodlands of 10 acres or more (with at least 7 acres designated as "wooded" and the remaining acres as "eligible") and not currently enrolled in Forest Stewardship or Chapter 61, 61A, or 61B programs.
- Landowners currently enrolled in Chapter 61A or 61B without an existing forest management/stewardship plan
- Eligible landowners encompass individuals, trusts, land trusts, clubs, LLCs, associations, leaseholders, and corporate entities.
- Municipally-owned forestland



It's important to note that **Forest Stewardship Cost-Share Reimbursement is exclusively for new Stewardship Plans***.

Re-certifications and amendments to existing plans do not qualify for cost-share reimbursement. The cost-share application must be approved by DCR before work on the plan begins.

Feel free to explore the program and its benefits, and if you have any queries, we're here to assist you on this woodland stewardship journey by visiting [Forest Stewardship Program | Mass.gov](https://www.mass.gov/forest-stewardship)

**Exceptions to this rule: In the case of a new landowner who inherits a plan from the previous owner, OR a property with a state-held CR or WPR.*

Foresters for the Birds Program: Enhancing and Supporting Songbird Habitat



Embark on a journey to enhance songbird habitat on your wooded land. This program is designed to deepen your understanding of avian habitat while seamlessly aligning with your broader forest management goals. A certified **Massachusetts Licensed Forester**, specializing in Bird Habitat Assessments, will carefully evaluate your woods, examining both existing and potential bird habitat. The bird assessment becomes an integral part of your holistic approach to forest management, harmonizing with goals such as promoting forest health or enhancing recreational trails. The resulting recommendations are then seamlessly woven into your personalized Forest Stewardship Plan.

For more details visit [Foresters for the Birds \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com).

Discover the joy of stewarding your woods while fostering a thriving haven for our feathered friends.

[Foresters for the Birds: Assessing Your Woods for Bird Habitat | Mass.gov](https://www.mass.gov/foresters-for-the-birds)

Who is eligible?

- Landowners and Municipalities with 10 or more acres that are currently enrolled in the Current Use / Forest Stewardship Program or those applying for a new Forest Stewardship Plan concurrently.

Climate Forestry Program—Responding to Climate Change

Whether you spend time outside in your woods or just enjoy the beauty of your trees and wildlife from your window, you likely love your woods and want to keep them healthy. Forests are always changing and adapting to new conditions. Some changes are as anticipated as the progression of green summer leaves to the bright red and gold of fall foliage, or the annual return of brightly colored migratory songbirds. Other changes in our woodlands are only visible when comparing differences across many years or decades.



Do you wonder about the changing conditions in your woods? Many people are asking more questions about how a changing climate is impacting forests and what actions can be taken to ensure forests stay healthy no matter what the future holds. The Climate Forestry Program will seamlessly integrate climate adaptation efforts with broader goals like enhancing forest health or improving recreational trails. The resulting recommendations are thoughtfully woven into your personalized Forest Stewardship Plan.

There is an exciting addition for FY 2024—the **Technical Assistance Cost-Share for the Climate Forestry Program**.

This option extends a cost-share opportunity, covering a greater portion of a private forester's time to assess your goals through a climate lens and meticulously review the finished plan. For more details visit [Climate Forestry | Mass.gov](https://www.mass.gov/climate-forestry)

Who is eligible?

- Landowners and Municipalities with 10 or more acres that are currently enrolled in the Current Use / Forest Stewardship Program or those applying for a new Forest Stewardship Plan concurrently.

These programs, funded by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, are open to all eligible applicants without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, retaliation, marital or family status.

Working Forest Initiative Cost-Share Rates

Application for Working Forest Initiative Cost-Share **MUST BE APPROVED BEFORE SUBMITTING THE COMPLETED PLAN TO DCR**

Acreage	Cost-share Reimbursement for NEW Stewardship Plans
10 to 36 acres	\$1,140
37 to 499 ac	\$1,140 + \$16/ac >36 acres
Over 500 ac	\$14,622 max reimbursement* over 500 acres
	*500 to 999 acres = \$1,140 + \$14.00/acre over 36 acres (\$14,622.00 maximum reimbursement)
Over 1,000 ac	\$19,622 max reimbursement** over 1,000 acres
	**1,000+ acres = \$1,140 + \$12.00/acre over 36 acres (\$19,622.00 maximum reimbursement)

Where applicable, cost-share reimbursement rates for programs such as Foresters for the Birds or Climate

Acreage	Foresters for the Birds			Climate Forestry Program			Climate + Bird Programs		
	New FSP	Existing FSP	Existing CH 61/61A/61B	New FSP	Existing FSP	Existing CH 61/61A/61B	New FSP	Existing FSP	Existing CH 61/61A/61B
10 to 20 ac	\$500	\$800	\$1,100	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$1,500	\$2,300	\$3,100
21 to 50 ac	\$600	\$1,000	\$1,300	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$2,600	\$3,500	\$4,300
Greater than 51 ac	\$700	\$1,200	\$1,500	\$3,000	\$3,500	\$4,000	\$3,700	\$4,700	\$5,500

FSP = Forest Stewardship Plan

Forestry or combining programs such as Climate Forestry and Foresters for the Birds are provided 'in addition to' the **Cost-share Reimbursement for NEW Stewardship Plans**.

As an illustration, consider a landowner with a 100-acre property not currently enrolled in Forest Stewardship or Chapter 61, 61A, or 61B programs, seeking a NEW plan encompassing both Climate and Birds. In this scenario, they would be eligible to receive \$1,140 plus \$16/acre over 36 acres, totaling \$2,164, and an additional \$3,700 for Climate & Birds. Consequently, the total reimbursement for the landowner would amount to \$5,864.

Technical Assistance Cost-Share for Climate Forestry Program		
Cost-Share Rate	Assistance Category	Hours
Up to \$120/hour	Consulting Forester technical assistance prior to your plan being written.	Up to 4
Up to \$120/hour	Completed Climate Plan Review by your Consulting Forester (prior to plan submission to DCR).	Up to 2
Up to \$120/hour	Includes technical assistance from your Consulting Forester prior to your plan being written as well as plan review (prior to plan submission to DCR).	Up to 6