

COST-SHARE APPLICATION

Forest Stewardship plan

Get expert forestry advice

Provides the tools and knowledge to develop a forest management plan that reduces the likelihood of the development of forestland by encouraging active forest management.

Eligibility:

- Eligible landowners encompass individuals, trusts, land trusts, clubs, LLCs, associations, leaseholders, corporate entities and municipalities.
- Project areas of 10+ acres, with at least 7 acres designated as "wooded" and the remaining acres as "eligible," that are 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.
- Forest Stewardship Cost-Share Reimbursement is exclusively for new Stewardship Plans*. Recertifications 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.

Foresters for the Birds

Protect the birds on your property

Provides guidance for stewarding your forest in a way that provides habitat to bird species in decline. The bird assessment, conducted by a specialized Massachusetts Licensed Forester, 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.

Eligibility: Landowners & Municipalities with 10 or more wooded acres that are currently enrolled in the Current Use / Forest Stewardship Program or applying for a new Forest Stewardship Plan at the same time.

Climate Forestry & Technical Assistance

Adapt your forest to climate change

Connects you with professional foresters who can provide a strategy that helps your forest adapt to change. 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. Technical Assistance Cost-Share 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.

Eligibility: Landowners & Municipalities with 10 or more wooded acres that are currently enrolled in the Current Use / Forest Stewardship Program or applying for a new Forest Stewardship Plan at the same time.



COST-SHARE APPLICATION



Forest Stewardship, Foresters for the Birds & Climate Forestry Programs

Please complete the application and IRS [Form W-9 \(Rev. March 2024\) \(irs.gov\)](#) 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:

ELIGIBILITY

YES NO

- ☐ ☐ I/We are applying for Stewardship Plan Cost-Share (**NEW**)
- ☐ ☐ I/We are applying for Cost-Share for Bird Habitat Assessment (**Foresters for the Birds Program**)
- ☐ ☐ I/We are applying for Cost-Share for Climate Forestry (**Climate Forestry Program**)
- ☐ ☐ I/We have an EXISTING Management Plan (CH 61/ 61A /61B)
- ☐ ☐ I/We have an EXISTING Forest Stewardship Plan
- ☐ ☐ The property has an EXISTING Forest Stewardship or Management Plan; I/we are the new owners.

Technical Assistance Cost-Share^ for Climate Forestry Program

^Cost-Share Rate up to \$120/hour

I/We would like an additional 4 hours of Technical Assistance from our consulting forester before our Climate Forestry plan is written. ☐

I/We would like an additional 2 hours of Technical Assistance from our consulting forester to review our completed Climate Forestry plan. ☐

LANDOWNER SIGNATURE

Only applications with completed IRS [Form W-9 \(Rev. March 2024\) \(irs.gov\)](#) will be processed. The IRS considers Cost-share reimbursement payments reportable 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 \(Rev. March 2024\) \(irs.gov\)](#) must be submitted with this cost-share application.

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.

IRS considers Cost-share reimbursement payments reportable and must be reported on your income tax returns.

You will receive an IRS Form 1099 for cost-share reimbursement payments.

Landowner Signature:

Date:

FOR DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY

Approval

Acres Approved:

Reimbursement approved (\$):

Comments:

Disapproval

☐ Ineligible

☐ No Funds Available (keep on file)

Comments:

☐ I certify that this application meets the eligibility requirements for Working Forest Initiative Funding and the MA Forest Stewardship Program.

DCR AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE:

DATE:

COST-SHARE RATES

Acreage	Cost-share Reimbursement for NEW Stewardship Plans
10 to 36 acres	\$1,140
37 to 499 ac	\$1,140 + \$16 per every acre over 36 acres, or $1,140 + ((\text{total ac} - 36) * 16)$
Over 500 ac	\$14,622 max reimbursement* \$1,140 + \$14.00 per every acre over 36 acres, or $1,140 + ((\text{total ac} - 36) * 14)$
Over 1,000 ac	\$19,622 max reimbursement** over 1,000 acres **\$1,140 + \$12.00 per every acre over 36 acres, or $1,140 + ((\text{total ac} - 36) * 12)$

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 -20 ac	\$500	\$800	\$1,100	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$1,500	\$2,300	\$3,100
21 - 50 ac	\$600	\$1,000	\$1,300	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$2,600	\$3,500	\$4,300
51+ ac	\$700	\$1,200	\$1,500	\$3,000	\$3,500	\$4,000	\$3,700	\$4,700	\$5,500
FSP = Forest Stewardship Plan									

When applicable, cost-share reimbursement rates for programs like Foresters for the Birds or Climate Forestry, or when combining these programs, are provided in addition to the cost-share reimbursement for new Stewardship Plans. For instance, imagine a landowner with a 100-acre property not currently enrolled in Forest Stewardship or Chapter 61, 61A, or 61B programs, who seeks a new plan integrating both Climate Forestry and Foresters for the Birds. In this scenario, they would be eligible to receive \$1,140 plus \$16 per acre over 36 acres, totaling \$2,164, and an additional \$3,700 for Climate Forestry and Foresters for the Birds. Therefore, 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 before your plan is written.	Up to 4
Up to \$120/hour	Completed Climate Plan review by your Consulting Forester (before plan submission to DCR).	Up to 2
Up to \$120/hour	Includes technical assistance from your Consulting Forester before your plan is written as well as plan review (before plan submission to DCR).	Up to 6