

WISCONSIN FOREST LANDOWNER GRANT PROGRAM (WFLGP)

Authorization: s. 26.38, Wis. Stats.; ch. NR 47, Wis. Admin. Code

Budget: \$1.65 million annually.

Objective: Provide financial assistance, in the form of reimbursement, to private forest landowners to implement practices that protect, maintain and enhance forest resources including wetlands, threatened and endangered resources, and wildlife habitat.

Eligibility: Private non-industrial forest owners of at least 10 acres but no more than 500 forested acres who have an approved forest stewardship management plan or are applying for a management plan. Eligible landowners include: individuals, foreign owners, joint owners, groups and associations, corporations without publicly traded stock, and other private legal entities.

Level of Assistance: 50% of the approved cost of the project. Maximum levels are set prior to awarding a grant but never more than \$10,000 per year.

Priorities: Applications are accepted year-round, and awarded on the basis of priority. High priority practices will use up to 80% of the funding include; stewardship plan development, reforestation, afforestation, and timberstand improvement. All other practices will be funded as a low priority practice with the remaining funds. If funds run out, awaiting applications will be funded on a first come first serve basis as funds become available.

Eligible Types of Projects: Cost-sharing is available for the following practices: preparation of landowner Forest Stewardship plans, tree planting, forest stand improvement, threatened or endangered species protection, soil and water protection and improvement, riparian and wetland protection and improvement, fisheries habitat improvement, and wildlife habitat enhancement.

Applications: Landowners can apply at the local DNR forester's office. Applications may be submitted at anytime but are processed quarterly, on Fed. 1st, May1st, Aug. 1st, and Nov1st each year.

History: Since its inception in 1998, this program has provided over \$6 million in reimbursement to more than 5,000 Wisconsin landowners.

Contacts: DNR Regional Forestry Offices found at <http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/ftax/County.asp>

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