

A note to the landowner from the Connecticut State Forester

Congratulations on being a steward of the future! With proper care, the forested land you own will provide a home for wildlife, a moderate source of income, fresh air, fresh water, and unmatched beauty for you – and for generations to come. How well you care for the forest will have a direct and lasting impact on the quality of life in Connecticut for the future. The following page(s) provide a brief description of your forest and some suggested forest management activities that are intended to help you attain your goals of forest ownership and pass on a forest that is healthier and more vigorous than when you took charge of it.

You certainly should consult your certified Forester as you manage your forest for the future. But, you may also consult (free of charge) with one of our State Service Foresters. Simply contact my office (860-424-3630) and I will have the Service Forester for your area contact you.

Some facts to help you understand your Qualified Forester's Report

What is a forest **"stand"**? A stand is a contiguous area where the species, size, age, and general condition of trees is uniform enough to be distinguished from adjacent areas. The forest map(s) that accompany this report will show the layout of the property and the various forest stands.

Tree diameters are measured in inches at 4.5 feet above ground level, known as "diameter at breast height" (dbh). Trees are described according to the following size groups:

- seedlings - trees less than or equal to 0.5 inches dbh.
- saplings - trees greater than 0.5 inches and less than or equal to 5.5 inches dbh.
- poletimber - trees greater than 5.5 inches and less than or equal to 11.5 inches dbh.
- sawtimber - trees greater than 11.5 inches dbh.

Forest Stand Descriptions are **coded** as follows:

H = hardwoods (broadleaf trees)	0 = seedlings	A = overstocked (needs thinning)
M = mixed hard and softwoods	1 = saplings	B = well stocked for optimal growth
S = softwoods (conifers)	2 = poletimber	C = poorly stocked (young or over-cut)
X = xmas trees (harvest w/o roots)	3 = sawtimber	

(As an example, the forest stand class "H2A" describes a stand of hardwood poletimber that is overstocked and in need of thinning. Where more than one size group is present the classifications are combined, such as "M2,3B" represents a well stocked mixed stand of pole and sawtimber.)

The **"priority"** listed for treatment of a forest stand is a subjective evaluation by your Qualified Forester of how important is it to perform the treatment of the stand in comparison to treatments proposed for other stands. If you've decided to actively manage your forest, start with the top priority treatments (labeled #1) and work down the priorities. That way you know you're getting the most important work done first!

UPDATE THESE GUIDELINES !!!

Natural processes, harvesting, and other management practices cause changes in the forest that will make these guidelines less valid with the passage of time. Therefore, new guidelines should be developed at least every 10 years.

Forest Stand Descriptions

The accompanying forest map shows the layout of the property and the various forest stands. Management recommendations are offered for each stand and are based upon owner objectives and stand characteristics.

Stand #:	Acres:	Trees/Ac.:	Code:	Priority:
Predominant species:				
Suggested Treatment(s):				
Forest health and protection issues:				
Special or unique features/values:				

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(attach additional pages as necessary)

