

Florida Division of Forestry
 Soil Conservation Service
 IFAS Cooperative Extension Service
 Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission
 Agricultural Stabilization & Conservation Service



The objectives are to:

- encourage landowners to manage for multiple natural resources.
- increase public awareness of the importance of Florida's forest lands.
- improve the cooperation among natural resource agencies to meet Florida's forest management needs and opportunities.

Who is Eligible for the Program?

About two-thirds of Florida's forest land is privately owned. Therefore, Forest Stewardship in Florida begins with you, the individual landowner. Any private landowner with a minimum of 25 acres of forest land who wants to manage the land for its many resources is eligible. If you are a landowner who has:

- (a) actively managed your forestland in the past, but would like to,
- (b) managed for only one resource such as timber and now want to diversify your forest resource activities, or
- (c) are currently managing your land for multiple resources, would like access to new **Implementation of the management plan** with available technical and financial assistance for SIP practices. ideas and deserve recognition.

Becoming a Forest Steward

Each landowner follows these simple steps:

- **Nomination to the program** by agency professionals, another landowner, or by self-nomination.
- **Development of a management plan** with a team of natural resource professionals.

- **Approval of completed conservation practices** during the Forest Stewardship team visits.
- **Receipt of certification as a Forest Steward**, hanging the certificate in your home and proudly posting the official sign at your forest land.

How to Use This Stewardship Publication

This Extension circular is intended to help you become familiar with Florida's Forest Stewardship Program and how to manage for multiple forest resources. Each page on the left side of the folder holds important information about management strategies for timber, wildlife, recreation, soil and water, and grazing resources. For each renewable resource we outline:

- **why manage for the resource,**
- **management options, and**
- **where to get more information.**

The pages on the right side of the folder are filled with all the different agencies, publications, resources and other assistance you may want to access when implementing your conservation practices. The people and agencies listed will help tailor a plan to meet all your stewardship needs. We are excited about your interest in conserving Florida's forests.



Forest Stewardship is a commitment to your land for now and the future.