

## **ATFS Announces Web-based On-Line Certification Verification Service**

**The American Tree Farm System has updated its prices for the ATFS On-Line Certification Verification Service.** This web-based service allows subscribers to access the ATFS database to confirm the certification status of ATFS certified properties. Begun in anticipation of SFI® audit and chain-of-custody verification needs, ATFS has created a real-time, web-based system that will allow subscribers to look up over 39,000 individual properties covering 23 million acres and verify their ATFS certification status.

The system is designed so that users may log in with an ATFS issued password, enter specific data about the tract in question and then receive a real-time reply regarding its certification status (i.e., Certified, Not Certified, Not In The System). Subscriber fees are based on number of facilities. One subscription for a single mill is \$500/yr. Any additional mill will be an additional \$500/yr, up to three mills. For companies wishing to subscribe for more than three mills, there is a flat fee of \$1500/year. Please see below for the pricing schedule. Wood dealer yards and consulting firms may purchase a single subscription for \$400/yr.

The subscription levels are as follows:

Single subscription – 1 mill	\$500/yr
Single subscription – wood dealer yard, consulting firm	\$400/yr
Multi-use subscription – 3 mills or more	\$1500/yr

Fees are based on annual, unlimited use for each facility and its own individual network of wood procurement and verification. Upon receipt of the fee, subscribers will be given password access to the on-line verification system (OVS). The password can be shared by the subscriber to appropriate verifiers within the facility's procurement network. However, supporting facility procurement entities such as wood buyers and other extra-company wood consolidation entities will need to subscribe separately.

Fees are assessed yearly on the date the contract was signed by the subscriber. Passwords expire at year's end and companies must renew in order to continue to use the OVS. Invoicing will occur during the last half of the third quarter, giving subscribers appropriate time to submit the upcoming year's fee and have their subscription extended.

For further information or to learn how your organization can subscribe, please contact Victoria Lockhart, ATFS, 202/463-2738 or e-mail her at [vlockhart@forestfoundation.org](mailto:vlockhart@forestfoundation.org).

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The American Tree Farm System® (ATFS) is a national program that promotes the sustainable management of forests through education and outreach to private forest landowners. Founded in 1941, ATFS has 24 million acres of privately owned forestland and over 90,000 family forest owners who are committed to excellence in forest stewardship. Tree Farmers manage their forestlands for wood, water, wildlife, and recreation with assistance from 4,400 volunteer foresters. ATFS is a program of the American Forest Foundation, a nonprofit organization that works for healthy forests, quality environmental education, and informed decision-making about our communities and our world.