



Dedicated to helping landowners become active stewards of the land one family forest at a time.

The **South Dakota Family Forests Association**, a 501(c)(3), advocates for forest landowners and serves to provide the resources, education, and network for its members to practice stewardship of natural resources for sustainable forests.

To that end, the organization's key focus areas are Advocacy, Member Outreach & Education, Communications, Certification & Stewardship, and the Financial & Fundraising.

The tax-deductible annual full membership dues are currently \$75 and invoiced at beginning of each year. Associate annual membership is now set at \$25 and invoiced at beginning of each year.

Advocacy Committee

- Represents family forest landowners at the annual AgFest Legislative event in Pierre.
- Conducts tree farms tours for officials, such as the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (SD DANR) and/or SD Lieutenant Governor.
- Advocates with policy makers on behalf of family forest landowner interests.
- Conducts workshops for county and state assessors about family forest operations.
- Monitor SD Legislative Session for issues relating to family forest landowner interests.

Certification and Stewardship Committee

- Obtains/administers a Stewardship Cost Share Grant with South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (SD DANR).
- Provides free 5-year inspections to members in keeping with ATFS Standards for certified tree farms.
- Recruits and trains foresters for qualification with the American Tree Farm System.
- Implements the Tree Farmer of the Year and Inspector of the year recognition awards.

Membership Outreach and Education Committee

- Organizes landowner workshops and field trips.
- Hosts the events, such as the Awards Recognition event.
- Distributes information regarding educational opportunities and resources of interest to forest landowners.

Communications and Public Relations

- Maintains the website.
- Provides networking and conveys relevant information through Facebook.
- Promotes family forests and forest landowners.
- Handles publicity and press releases.

Financial & Fundraising

- Seeks additional sponsors and support.
- Conducts financial audits.
- Plans donor appreciation events.