



*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.

SDFFA is comprised of a Board of Directors and volunteer committees focused on these key areas: Advocacy, Member Outreach & Education, Communications, Certification & Stewardship, and Financial & Fundraising.

The tax-deductible annual membership dues for Certified Tree Farm Landowners are \$75 and invoiced at the beginning of each year. An Associate Membership for non-landowners who wish to support the mission of the organization is \$25.

#### Advocacy Committee

- Represents family forest landowners at the annual AgFest Legislative event in Pierre.
- Conducts tree farms tours for officials, such as the SD Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources 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, such Legacy Estate planning, Aspen Regeneration, and Tree Farm 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.