

ABOUT MONTANA TREE FARM SYSTEM

In Montana, non-industrial private forests cover 4.6 million acres. Also called family forests, they play an essential role in providing wildlife habitat, clean water, access to recreation on public lands, and sustainable timber harvesting. Family forests are critical to effective forest management, restoration, and reducing wildfire risk to Montana's forests and communities.

By promoting sustainable forest management practices, the Montana Tree Farm System's mission is to give forest owners the tools they need to keep their forest healthy and productive. Family forest owners, community forests, professional foresters, forest industry representatives, and staff from state and federal agencies comprise Montana's membership. Nationally the American Tree Farm System (ATFS) is a community of 74,000 landowners sustainably managing 24 million acres of forest land.



"We believe even more strongly that privately owned woodlands are vital to our country's clean water and air, wildlife habitat, recreational activities, and produce jobs, wood, and paper products we all need."



THE FIVE STEPS TO **CERTIFICATION**

- 1. You are a good steward with 10-10,000 acres of forest. You care about your woods and manage for the long term health of your land.
- 2. Contact us to request more information and we will work with you to see if you meet the Montana Tree Farm System (MTFS) eligibility criteria, which must meet American Tree Farm System's (ATFS) Standards of Sustainability. To view the standards scan the QR code:



- 3. Request a property inspection with one of our MTFS trained inspectors.
- 4. An MTFS inspector will visit your property and verify your land management activities meet the ATFS Standards of Sustainability.
- 5. If approved for certification, post your ATFS sign with pride! You have been recognized for your good stewardship and your commitment to sustainability on your woodlands.

CONTACT US



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Montana

TREE FARM SYSTEM



Sustaining forests, watersheds, and healthy habitats through the power of private stewardship.



TOOLS

As a forest owner, you want to do right by your land and your family. Keeping your forest healthy and meeting today's challenges, such as managing forests to be resilient to insects and diseases, wildfire, and drought, requires ongoing information, tools, and on-the-ground assistance to make the best decisions for your forest. Montana Tree Farm System (MTFS) is here to help connect you with resources tailor-made for forest landowners. The Montana Tree Farm Committee is represented by diverse interests and forestry professionals distributing information and connecting Tree Farmers with the right resources and expertise to actively and sustainably manage their forests to meet their goals.

Stay Connected through Montana Tree Farm System Newsletters!

Scan the QR code to view current and past newsletters:





RECOGNITION

Montana's family forests owners are committed to sustainably managing their land for the long term. MTFS recognizes and honors family forest owners for their work and commitment to sustainable stewardship of their land.

The ATFS Certification system is internationally recognized, and the certified ATFS sign tells your community, and the world, that you stand among the best forest stewards in America. We stand there with you are part of your team. And like the trees you plant, we are with you for the long run. Each year MTFS recognizes and honors outstanding Tree Farmers across the state. ATFS also recognizes outstanding Tree Farmers at a regional and national level.



"Being Tree Farmers has encouraged us to proactively manage our forested property, learn how to enjoy it more, and bring family members together to continue the stewardship activity it deserves." Clyde and Meg Robbie - Butte, MT

FUTURE

How you manage your forest is a part of your family legacy. Montana's family forest owners manage and value their land for many reasons including recreation, wildlife habitat, and income from timber. You have worked hard to ensure your land is better now than when you got it and that your family can continue to enjoy your family's forest for generations to come.

ATFS recognizes the importance and contributions of family forests stewarding the land. As part of the national system, you will have the tools and support to keep your forest thriving. ATFS's National Public Affairs Committee works to voice family forest owners' concerns, share their stories, and support policies that empower family forest owners to sustainably manage their forests now and in the future.

