Management Assistance Program
APPLICATION

Watershed Agricultural Council
Forestry Program
www.nycwatershed.org

PROGRAM INFORMATION

This program is intended to help you carry out stewardship projects on your land. This application can be completed by either the landowner or the contractor doing the work.

This is a competitive grant program with monthly rounds. **The funding limit is $3,166.93 per grant round, and $6,333.85 per year.** Applications are due on the 1st of each month. Grant winners have 6 months to complete the project.

Due to the technical nature of the program, it is recommended that you contact the WAC Forestry Program with any questions: (607) 865-7790 x100 or forestry@nycwatershed.org.

Landowner Information

Name

Preferred Mailing Address

City State Zip

Telephone

E-Mail

Program Requirements

The work must be completed within 6 months of approval, and grant funding will be paid to either the landowner or contractor following satisfactory inspection by WAC staff. The following are required to receive funding:

☐ Choose at least one of the following:
- ○ I have a MyWoodlot profile*
- ○ I have a Watershed Forest Management Plan
- ○ I am enrolled in the 480A Forest Tax Law

☐ A map showing the location of the practice

☐ Property acreage _____

Landowner's signature *(required)* Date

Payment to:

☐ Landowner ☐ Contractor ☐ Other: _____

Property Information

Property Address

Township

County

Number of Trees: _____

OR Area Impacted by Proposed Practice: _____ (acres).

Amount of funding requested: _____ (max: $3,166.93)

Project: (CHECK ONLY ONE PRACTICE PER APPLICATION)

☐ Timber Stand Improvement (TSI) ☐ Tree Planting

☐ Wildlife Improvement ☐ Invasive Plant Control

Contractor Information (check one box)

☐ I can complete this project on my own

☐ I am hiring a contractor

Name

Mailing Address

Town State Zip

Telephone

E-Mail

☐ I am requesting assistance from the Watershed Agricultural Council

*If you don't have internet access or don't feel proficient at creating a MWL profile contact WAC for assistance.

Management Assistance Program Information & Cost Share Rates

Timber Stand Improvement (TSI)

TSI is to a forest what weeding is to a garden: It allows certain species to be favored. It enhances the growth and quality of timber by removing poor quality trees and making room for good quality tree crowns to grow. Visit **mywoodlot.com/map-tsi** for help completing this practice.

Requirements:

- Tree marking must be conducted by a Watershed Qualified Forester.
- Cutting and, if desired, removal can be conducted by any individual, with preference given to a NYS Trained Certified Logger (TLC).
- Tree designation will be according to a silvicultural prescription identified in the Watershed Forest Management Plan.
- Cost sharing is not authorized unless the stand is actually improved by the cull tree removal or thinning.

Cost Share Rates:

Tree designation: # of acres _____ @$25.35/acre = _____

Cull tree removal: # of acres _____ @$57.01/acre = _____

Light thinning: # of acres _____@$76.00/acre = _____
(10-20 sqft BA removed)

Medium thinning: # of acres _____@$114.00/acre = _____
(21-40 sqft BA removed)

Heavy thinning # of acres: _____ @$139.35/acre = _____
(41+ sqft BA removed)

Invasive Plant Control

Cost share is for the mechanical control and/or removal of invasive and interfering species of flora that restrict or prevent forest regeneration. Visit **mywoodlot.com/map-ipc** for help completing this practice.

Guidelines:

- These can be found on our website or provided upon request along with information on eradicating or controlling an invasive plant.
- Control of invasive species for orchard, ornamental, nursery and Christmas tree purposes is not authorized.
- The species considered interfering or invasive for the purpose of this practice include:

5-leaf Akebia	Japanese Barberry	Honeysuckle
American Beech	Japanese Maple	Oriental
Autumn Olive	Mile-a-minute	Bittersweet
Buckthorn	Multiflora Rose	Russian Olive
English Ivy	New York Fern	Swallowwort
Hay-scented Fern	Non-native	Winged Euonymus

☐ **Light** Invasive Plant Control (0-30% pre-practice cover)
acres _____ @ $1,082.90/acre = _____

☐ **Medium** Invasive Plant Control (31-60% pre-practice cover)
acres _____ @ $2,165.80/acre = _____

☐ **Heavy** Invasive Plant Control (61-100% pre-practice cover)
acres _____ @ $3,166.93/acre = _____

Tree Planting

Tree planting is to encourage the regeneration of forest cover through planting, site preparation, tree shelters and temporary fencing for the purpose of timber production, carbon sequestration and water quality improvement. Planting is limited to non-invasive native or naturalized species and cannot be used for orchard, ornamental, nursery, or Christmas tree purposes.

Requirements:

- The applicant is responsible for finding someone (including themselves) to do the work, including site preparation, planting, spacing, and implementation of protective measures.
- Twice each year (spring and fall) WAC will purchase and distribute to approved applicants the following planting materials identified in the approved MAP application: planting stock (trees and shrubs), tree tubes, bark protectors, weed mats, tree stakes and zip ties.
- WAC staff may conduct a site visit to help the participant develop the project details for the application.
- The combined cost of all planting materials (trees, shrubs, tubes, stakes, zip ties and fencing) cannot exceed the maximum MAP funding.
- Approval priority will be given to Tree Planting projects that fall within 100ft of a stream.
- The application should address site preparation (how holes will be dug and brush hogging if needed), tree or shrub species to be planted, the number of tree or shrubs to be planted, the spacing of the trees or shrubs, and the number of tree tubes, stakes and/or fencing needed to protect the trees or shrubs from animal browsing.
- All trees and shrubs must be protected from animal browse through the use of tubes or fencing.
- The spacing for tree planting is 10ft by 10ft. The spacing for shrub planting is 6ft by 6 ft.
- In order to be eligible for approval the participant is required to plant at least five trees.
- In order to be eligible for approval at least 50% of the proposed planting must be trees.
- Participants are required to have the holes dug before the planting materials will be delivered by WAC.
- All fencing determined to be necessary to restrict damage by wildlife will be of suitable design to restrict access with a minimum height of 7 feet. Tree shelters and fencing will not be cost shared in combination to prevent animal damage.
- Fencing projects relying on natural regeneration (no tree planting) will only be funded when there is sufficient light for the establishment of a variety of tree species.
- Projects that propose planting fruit trees are not eligible for funding through MAP.

Cost Share Rates:

Tree shelters: # of tree shelters _____ @$5.07/tree = _____

Fencing: linear feet of fencing _____ @$2.53/ft = _____

# of trees requested: _____ # of shrubs requested: _____

Wildlife Improvement

The following practices are offered to help create, protect or maintain wildlife habitat:

1. WILDLIFE CROP TREE RELEASE:

This practice will attract deer and turkey by increasing or maintaining the natural food supply produced by trees for wildlife. The best crop trees available should be found (preferably nut/fruit producers like oak, hickory, cherry, etc.). Surrounding trees that interfere or slow the growth of these crop trees should be cut down, leaving 20 – 30 feet between the canopy of the crop tree and competing neighboring trees. This frees the crop trees from competition so they have room to grow, are healthier and will have more energy to put towards seed production.
Visit **mywoodlot.com/map1** for help completing this practice.

trees_____ @ $25.35/tree = _____

2. FRUIT TREE RELEASE/PRUNING:

Naturally occurring apple trees (and other fruit trees) grow in clearings and field edges, where they provide food throughout the year for numerous birds, insects and mammals. As forests grow, these fruit trees become overgrown and shaded. Shaded trees lose vigor causing them to produce less fruit. To pursue this practice you need to find the fruit trees, clear out above and around them as well as prune them. This increases their health and allows them to produce more fruit. Visit **mywoodlot.com/map2** for help completing this practice.

trees_____ @ $25.35/tree = _____

3. SEEP AND VERNAL POOL PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT:

Seeps and vernal pools represent important water resources that filter sediment and nutrients from surface water run-off, improving water quality. They also provide unique habitat for plants and animals. In upland forest and hillside conditions, these areas are particularly valuable to wildlife. They are very important as a water source in midwinter; when many water sources are frozen, these seeps and pools remain snow free. This practice will identify a seep and/or vernal pool buffer area maintained as a no-equipment zone, closing all forest roads located in the buffer. Forestry staff will make recommendations for relocating future trail systems outside this area and specific management activities that will enhance the wildlife habitat opportunities. Visit **mywoodlot.com/map3a** for help with seeps and **mywoodlot.com/map3b** for help with vernal pools.

acres_____ @ $307.48/acre = _____

Stand location from management plan: ____ (prescription for seep depends upon stand condition)
Presence of trail system ☐ (must be willing to relocate trail)
Presence of livestock ☐ (must be willing to permanently exclude livestock)

4. SNAG AND CAVITY TREE DEVELOPMENT:

Cavities in trees are widely used by birds, mammals, and insects for: nesting, resting, feeding, escape from predators, and winter storm protection. Snags are dead trees that remain standing. Snags are important for perching foragers like flycatchers and raptors and often are, or become, cavity trees as well. Bald eagle, Coopers' Hawk, Sharp-shinned hawk, Red-shouldered hawk, Northern goshawk, Olive-sided flycatcher, Prothonotary warbler, and wood peckers use cavity or snag trees. This practice will identify and reserve 2 to 8 snags per acre, or girdle (cut into the trunk at least 1" all the way around the tree, to stop nutrient flow up the tree and slowly kill the tree) live trees to make new snags. These snag and cavity trees need to be protected from disturbance like during a timber harvest. To get more information on how to actually carry out this practice visit **mywoodlot.com/map4** or request a copy of some guidelines.

trees_____ @ $30.75/tree = _____

5. WILDLIFE SEEDING IN A FOREST OPENING:

This practice helps in the establishment of seeded food plots to attract and provide food for game and non-game wildlife. Food plot establishment starts with clearing the existing ground cover, then applying lime and nutrient fertilizer as needed based upon the required soil test (and the soil requirements of the plant seed). Openings must be at least ¼ acre but not greater than 5 acres. To get more information on how to actually carry out this practice visit **mywoodlot.com/map5** or request a copy of some guidelines.

acres_____ @ $190.02 /acre = _____

6. EARLY SUCCESSIONAL HABITAT MANAGEMENT or CREATING A PLACE FOR WILDLIFE TO LIVE:

The goal with this management is to promote three stages of plant community (habitat) that provides food and shelter for certain birds and animals. Early successional habitat is becoming increasingly rare in NYS as mature forest becomes the dominant land type. Below is information on these three different communities. To get more information on how to actually carry out this practice visit **mywoodlot.com/map6** or request a copy of some guidelines.

a. Grassland Habitat:

This area provides diverse insect populations, an abundance of forage and dense cover for Eastern Bluebird, American Goldfinch, and Bobolink. The goal with this practice is to keep the milkweed, goldenrod and aster mix seen in old abandoned fields. To maintain this habitat mowing (brush hogging) will be done once every 5 years between August 1 and April 30. You should have areas of old abandoned field to carry out this practice.

acres_____ @ $61.50/acre = _____

(options b & c are continued on the following page)

Wildlife Improvement Continued ...

b. Shrubland Habitat:

American woodcock, Whip-poor-will, Canada warbler, Black-throated blue warbler, and Brown thrasher use this type habitat. The goal with this practice is to keep the brush that grows 2 to 10 feet tall by cutting down the saplings and trees that are greater than 1 inch in stump diameter. This shrubland habitat provides dense cover, good nesting sites and critical foraging opportunities due to abundant production of fruits and nuts. You should have old abandoned brushy fields with young saplings (trees 1 to 5 inches in diameter) starting to dominate the area to carry out this practice.

acres_____ @ $110.68/acre = _____

c. Sapling Habitat:

This sapling habitat provides nesting opportunities, foraging at different heights and dense ground cover for the Chestnut-sided warbler, Ruffed grouse, Blue-winged warbler, and Indigo bunting. The goal with this practice is to have a dense sapling stand (2,000 – 4,000 stems per acre that are .5" to 5" in diameter). You should have areas of more mature woods that you are willing to make ½ acre and larger openings in to carry out this practice. Priority will be given to stands dominated by Aspen, Cherry and Birch.

acres_____ @ $491.95/acre = _____

In the space below please describe the MAP practice you wish to implement and why (detail required):

Mail application to:
forestry@nycwatershed.org (preferred) or WAC Forestry Program, 33195 State Highway 10, Walton, NY 13856

For Office Use Only

☐ Property has Forest Management Plan Approved By: _____ Date: _____ Approved Amount: _____

Approved Practice: _____ Manager Approval & Date: ☐ _____