

Resources and Information

Visit www.certifiedforester.org to learn more about the Certified Forester program and benefit from our online resources:

- National Online Directory of Certified Foresters
- How to Become a Certified Forester
- Learn More about the Value of Certification
- Certified Forester Standards of Practice

If you have questions or would like to speak to someone about this program, send an e-mail to cf@safnet.org or call (866) 897-8720.

Referrals and Notes

Certified Forester Is a Program of the Society of American Foresters

The Society of American Foresters (SAF) is the largest national scientific and educational organization representing the forestry profession in the United States.

SAF members include forestry and natural resource professionals, who work in public agencies (state and federal) and private businesses (corporate and consulting). Members are also involved with research, education, public relations, policy, and more.

SAF is committed to educating natural resource professionals through peer-reviewed scientific publications, workshops and training sessions, continuing education opportunities, and credentialing.

SAF is a nonprofit organization meeting the requirements of 501(c)(3).

For More Information

Society of American Foresters
5400 Grosvenor Lane
Bethesda, MD 20814-2198

(866) 897-8720

www.safnet.org



*Proven Professionals.
Advice You Can Trust.*



The best resource for landowners



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Certified Foresters: Proven Professionals – Advice You Can Trust!

You have probably planned for your own financial future, but have you planned for the future of your woodland? A Certified Forester can help.

You own woodland for many reasons:

- A strong conservation ethic
- Economic value
- Personal sanctuary
- A gift from a previous generation
- A legacy for the future
- Pride and a love of the land



A recent survey* shows that only nine percent of landowners own their land for the primary purpose of harvesting timber. However, the study also shows that half of all landowners will conduct a timber harvest even if they thought they never would.

Although you may not be thinking about a timber harvest, if you own woodland you will probably be approached about one.

Regardless of your reason for owning woodland, seeking the advice of a forester can help you achieve healthy woodlands, explain your current options, and assist you in identifying and meeting your future goals. If you decide to harvest, a Certified Forester can ensure that the harvest meets your vision for the future of your woodland and that all environmental and local regulations are followed.



“The forester we hired was concerned about how the land would be after the harvest and the possibility of natural regeneration, as well as my visions and desires for the land. Our recognition as National Tree Farmers of the Year came largely because we hired a forester who has been our advisor and mentor.”

*Rachel Jordan, landowner
Dodgeville, Wisconsin*

How Can a Certified Forester Help?

No matter what you decide about harvesting trees, a Certified Forester will be your advocate as you assess the options for your forest, helping you:

- Define your goals and objectives and develop a plan to meet them
- Adhere to regulatory requirements
- Identify government financial incentive programs and eligibility
- Provide management alternatives and timeframes
- Attract diverse and abundant wildlife
- Improve water quality
- Assess the value of your forest
- Be aware of tax liabilities and deduction opportunities
- Reduce the risk of wildfire
- Prevent or control harmful insects and diseases
- Potentially save or make money

How Qualified Is a Certified Forester?

You can be assured you are hiring a qualified forester when you hire a Certified Forester. The Certified Forester program ensures that foresters:

- Meet the profession’s educational requirements
- Have at least five years of professional forestry experience
- Adhere to standards of professional practice
- Pass a rigorous competency exam that measures knowledge and skills
- Participate in continuing education

“During a recent timber sale, I received two offers – one for \$20,000 and one for \$25,000. Since I was uncertain about the true value of the timber, I contacted a local consulting forester. After surveying the woods, he valued the timber at \$100,000. I ultimately received that amount for the sale. That’s just one example of how I have benefited from the services of a professional forester.”

*Bill Lawhon, tree farmer
Worthington, Ohio*

*Butler, B.J., and E.C. Leatherberry. 2004. America’s Family Forest Owners. *Journal of Forestry* 102(7): 4–9.