Managing Your Woodland for the Long Term

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Forest Ownership

United States

Ohio



U.S. Forest Service, National Woodland Owner Survey

Ohio's Forest Products Industry

Ohio has more acres of trees and woodlands than corn and soybeans combined.

 A \$27.4 billion forest products annual economic impact (2017)

(Parks, Recreation, fishing, and hunting amount to about \$9 billion)

Some of the World's most valued hardwoods

Managing For the Long Term

- Define Goals and Objectives for Ownership
- Talk to a Professional Forester
- Obtain a Woodland Management Plan
- Do the Work







Goals for Ownership

- Wildlife Habitat
- Timber Production
- Recreation
- Property Aesthetics
- Investment
- Non-timber Forest Products
- Clean Air and Water

Trees Do it All







Typical Management Activities in Ohio Woodlands

- Boundary marking
- Trail establishment (gain access)
- Cutting of grapevine
- Control of non-native invasive plants
- Crop tree release (thinning)
- Cull tree control
- Tree Planting
- Timber Harvest









Harvesting Timber the Right Way





- I. Trees Chosen by and Marked by a Forester (chest height & stump)
- 2. Board Footage Inventory is Compiled
- 3. Send Selected Buyers an invitation to Bid (true "select" cut)
- 4. Select a Bid / Buyer
- **5.** Contract Signing and Collect Payment
- **6.** Conduct the Timber Harvest
- 7. Post Harvest Reclamation
- **8.** Continue on with Your Woodland Management

Three things a landowner should NEVER do when selling timber:

#1 - Never let the buyer decide which trees are going to be cut in your woods. That is your forester's job.

#2 - Never sign a contract presented by a buyer.

 #3 - Never sell directly to one individual. Always take multiple bids on a predetermined / marked and inventoried SET of trees. Prospective buyers should all be bidding on the exact same trees

Harvesting Timber the Right Way

Examples of reasonable goals you can relay to your forester:

- You want to take out what needs to come out in order to maintain or improve the overall health of the woods and you want the woods to look better after the harvest.
- You want access trails usable for the long term.
- You want to have another sale in 15 years.
- You want to create some thick habitat for deer or other animals.
- You want to leave certain landmark trees just because you like them.

Harvesting Timber the Wrong Way



Questions?