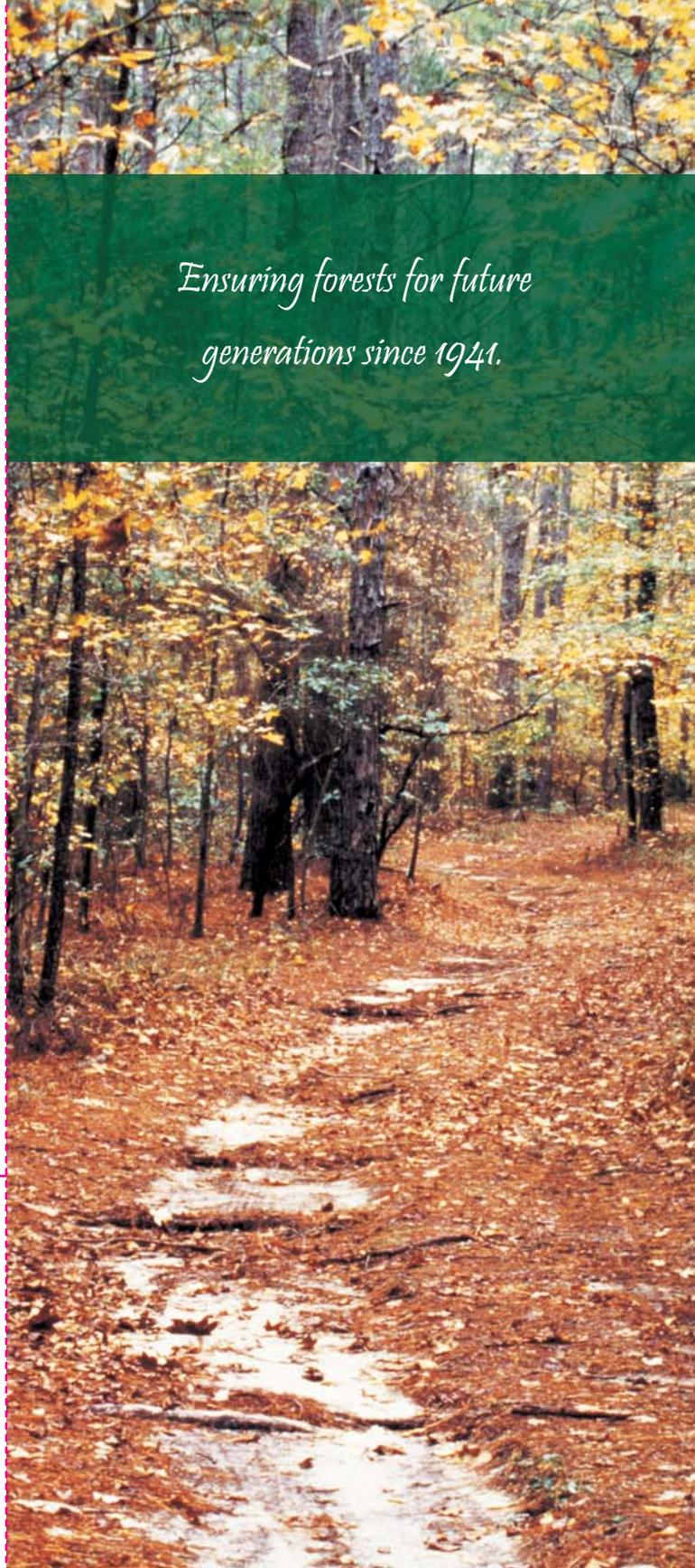




*Ensuring forests for future generations since 1941.*



 **FAMILIES OWN  
AMERICA'S  
FORESTLAND**

By reaching landowners, ensuring they receive professional assistance, and recognizing sustainable forestry in action, the American Tree Farm System is helping to get more good forestry on more acres - and keep it there for generations to come.

To learn more about ATFS contact your State Tree Farm Committee. Contact information for your state committee can be found on our website at [www.treefarmssystem.org](http://www.treefarmssystem.org). You can also email the American Tree Farm System at [info@treefarmssystem.org](mailto:info@treefarmssystem.org)

ATFS is a program of the American Forest Foundation (AFF), a nonprofit organization that works for healthy forests, quality environmental education, and informed decision-making about our communities and our world.

**The Sign of Sustainable Forestry**



**American Tree Farm System®**  
**1111 Nineteenth Street N.W.**  
**Suite 780**  
**Washington, D.C. 20036**  
**P: 202.463.2462**  
**F: 202.463.2461**  
**Email: [info@treefarmssystem.org](mailto:info@treefarmssystem.org)**

Photos by: Kathleen Preece, Brigitte Johnson, Terry Spivey [USDA Forest Service, [www.forestryimages.org](http://www.forestryimages.org)], and N. Campbell.

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AMERICAN TREE FARM SYSTEM®



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

The American Tree Farm System® is a program of the American Forest Foundation.

# American Tree Farm System®

Founded in 1941, the American Tree Farm System® (ATFS) is the oldest and largest forest conservation, certification, and advocacy program in the United States. ATFS promotes the sustainable management of forests through education and outreach to family forest landowners. ATFS has enrolled nearly 26 million acres of privately owned forestland and 80,000 family forest owners who are committed to excellence in forest stewardship.

State Tree Farm Committees operate the program in partnership with volunteers from co-sponsoring organizations and with thousands of volunteer professional foresters. ATFS Inspecting foresters provide advice and conduct on-the-ground inspections to the AFF Standards of Sustainability for Forest Certification (AFF Standards).

## TREE FARMERS

As stewards of the land, Tree Farmers manage their forestland for pride, profit, and pleasure. They are committed to protecting watersheds and wildlife habitat, conserving soil and, at the same time, producing the wood America needs and uses.

*"The most trusted name in forest certification for over 65 years."*

## BENEFITS

### ADVOCACY

- Grassroots action on critical issues.
- Representation on local, state, and federal issues affecting family forest owners.
- Providing key testimony to Congress.

### EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

- Access to continuing educational activities including field days and workshops.
- Professional advice and assistance.
- Training and tools to help Tree Farmers be even better stewards of the land.

### CERTIFICATION AND RECOGNITION

- Tree Farm certification that meets international standards of sustainable forest management.
- Access to markets.
- Right to display the green and white diamond shaped Tree Farm sign for certified Tree Farmers.
- Participation in the local, state, regional, and national Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year award.

## AM I ELIGIBLE?

If you own at least 10 acres of forestland and no more than 20,000 contiguous acres, your forest may qualify for certification now. Your property must meet the AFF Standards which include:

- A qualified written management plan.
- Forest management that complies with federal, state, and local laws.
- Consideration for air, water, and soil quality, and conservation of fish, wildlife, and biodiversity.
- Consideration for visual impacts of forestry practices.
- Recognizing historical, biological, archeological, cultural or geological sites.
- Responsible timber harvests, forest operations, and reforestation.

### HOW DO I BECOME PART OF THE AMERICAN TREE FARM SYSTEM?

- Complete and return the attached form.
- Learn more about the American Tree Farm System by visiting the website at [www.treefarmssystem.org](http://www.treefarmssystem.org).
- The State Tree Farm Committee will determine if you meet the eligibility requirements, and if so, connect you with an ATFS inspecting forester.
- If your forest qualifies, your Tree Farm inspector will recommend Tree Farm certification.
- Your State Tree Farm Committee will issue you a certificate and the Tree Farm sign.
- If you are eligible for certification but do not quite meet the AFF Standards, you may enter the program as a Pioneer Tree Farmer until you meet the AFF Standards.

For more information about how you can become a part of the Tree Farm program, return this card to your State Tree Farm Committee. Contact and address information can be found on our website at [www.treefarmssystem.org](http://www.treefarmssystem.org).

NAME

EMAIL

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PHONE

LOCATION OF PROPERTY (TOWNSHIP, SEC. RANGE), DIRECTIONS?

ACRES OF PROPERTY

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN GRASSROOTS LEVEL ADVOCACY? Yes/no

DO YOU HAVE A WRITTEN MANAGEMENT PLAN? Yes/No

ARE YOU AN ABSENTEE LANDOWNER? If yes, provide a name and contact information of someone who can show your property

Retain this portion for your records.