

#### **Woodland Owner Goals**

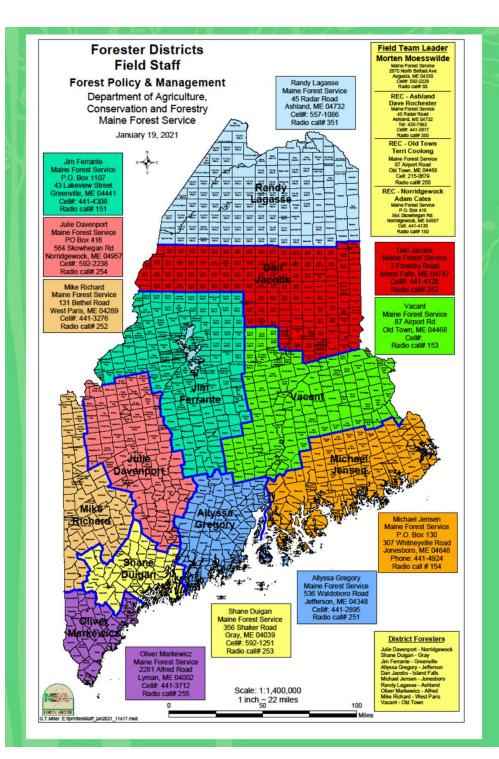


Owners of small woodland parcels, 5-500 acres may have many different values and goals for their woodland – wildlife habitat, timber, recreation, privacy, natural beauty are just a few. To make good decisions about your woodland, to protect these goals both now and in the future, it's very important to have thought about what it is you value most, how you use the property, and what values you are hoping to protect or enhance for the future.

This sheet is simply intended as food for thought. It may also be helpful in communicating your situation and your values to other family members, a forester you have hired, or others.

1.	Who actually owns the woodland? Who makes decisions about the property? (e.g. name(s) on the deed, members of a family, name of legal entity, organization, group, etc.)
2.	When did you become owner of the woodland?(year)
3.	How did you become owner?  a purchase    b family/inheritance  c other
4.	Do you live a on the property? b in the same town/near the woodland? c within 1-2 hours' drive? d more than 2 hours' drive
5.	How often do you spend time in the woods?  a every day b every week c every month d a few times per year e hardly ever
6.	What activities do you do in your woods?  a. Observing nature b. Walking/Snowshoeing/Skiing c. Hunting/Fishing d. Camping e. ATVs/Snowmobiling f. Working/Harvesting g. Other
7.	How much time do you spend working in your woods (hours, days, weeks)?

	quipment do you have available, that you are comfortable using? (hand tools, ainsaw, tractor, ATV, etc.)
	pple use your woodland? (children, family, friends, neighbors, groups, clubs, al public, etc.) How?
10. Which of the fo	ollowing things do you value? Which are most important to you?
Enhancing the	natural beauty of my land
Maintaining m	y sense of seclusion
Providing the I	benefits of healthy forests to the environment
Earning mone	y from timber harvesting, now or in the future
Hunting or fish	ing on my land
Maintaining tra	ails for walking, skiing, snowmobiles, etc.
Camping or pi	cnicking
Protecting the	land from development
Providing good	d wildlife habitat and/or protecting water bodies
Learning abou	t or studying nature
Getting firewo	od, maple syrup, or other non-timber products
Creating a val	uable legacy for my family
Other:	
11. What activities	/values will change in the future?
12. Do you want to	o encourage or discourage use by others in the future?
13. What are your future of your w	most important goals for the future? What are your greatest concerns for the roodland?
14. Who will likely	be your successor(s) in managing your woodland?



https://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/policy\_management/district\_foresters.html

Your district forester can visit your property and walk it with you FREE!

We highly recommend that you have this visit before committing to a forester or a harvest.

Our opinions are unbiased and are made with YOUR goals in mind.

# Forest Terminology

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## General Terms

#### Environment

 The interaction of air, sunlight, soil, topography and other plants and animals influencing an organism's form, behavior and survival

#### Conservation

 The protection, improvement and wise use of natural resources for present and future generations

#### Preservation

 An attempt to keep forests in an undisturbed state through the control of internal and external influences

#### Incentive

 A reward for improving forest management. Includes reimbursement of some expenses but may take the form of an abatement of property or income tax

#### Mature Tree

 A tree that has reached the desired size or age for its intended use. Economic maturity varies depending on species and use

#### Multiple Use

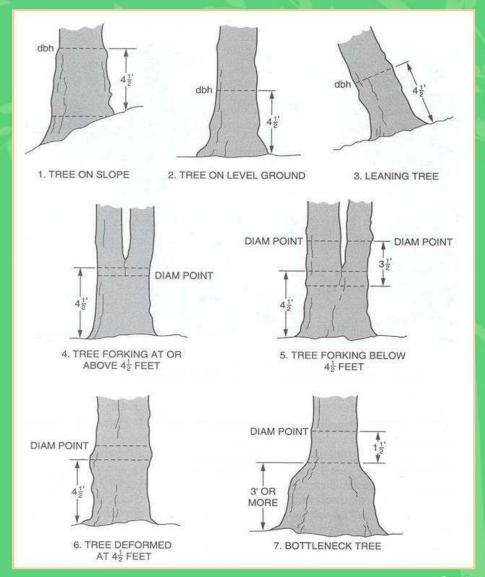
 The management of land or forest for more than one purpose, such as wood production, water quality, wildlife, recreation, aesthetics, or clean air

#### Present Use Valuation

 Tax relief based on the land's productivity for agriculture, forest products or coastal access rather than market value.

## Measurements

- Diameter at breast height (DBH)
  - Diameter of a tree measured 4.5' above ground
  - This can vary
     depending on where
     the tree is located or
     irregularities in tree
     diameter

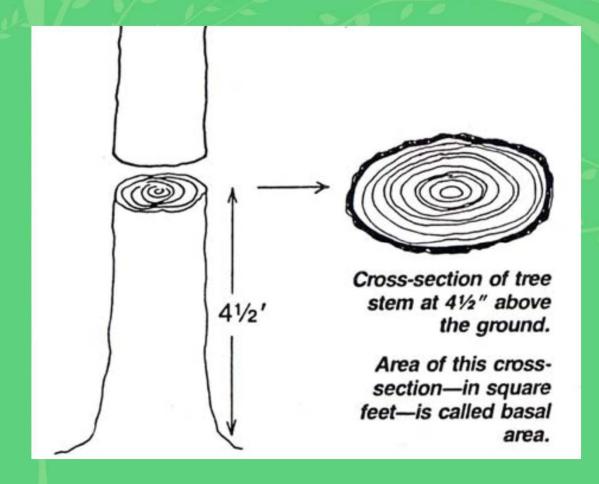


#### Basal area (BA)

- The cross-sectional area of a trunk at DBH OR the cross-sectional area of all stems expressed per unit of land area (ft²/acre)
- BA (sq ft)= $(pi/(4*144))*DBH^2$  where pi = 3.14
- =0.005454\*DBH<sup>2</sup>
- 0.005454 is called the "foresters constant" and converts measured inches into square feet
- A 14" diameter tree equals about 1 sq. ft. BA

## **Basal Area**

Single Tree



#### Representations of 60 ft<sup>2</sup> of basal area

Area based rather than single tree

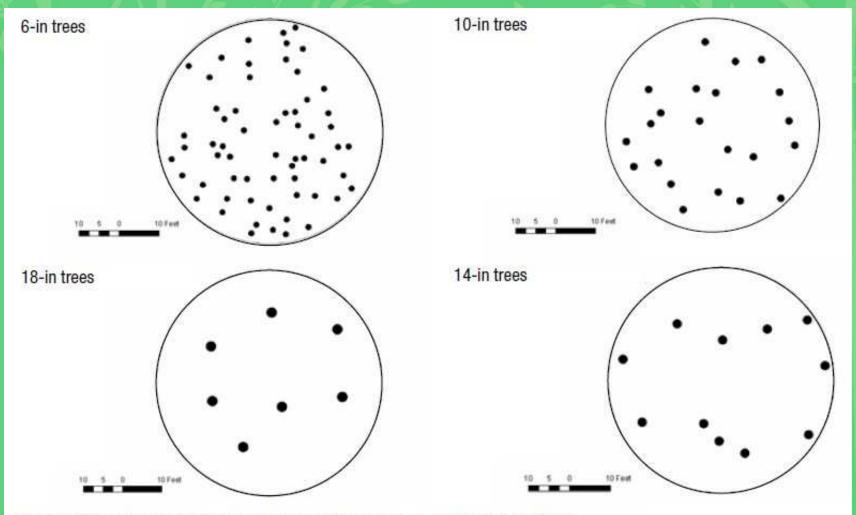


Figure 2. Representation of a 1/5-acre plot and the number of trees at 6, 10, 14, and 18 inches DBH that are needed to make 60 square feet of basal area per acre. (Graphic courtesy John Gilbert, Longleaf Pine Stand Dynamics Lab, School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, Auburn University)

#### Cord

 Stack of wood 4'x4'x8', containing about 85 ft3 of wood, with the rest being air space. It is the legal measure of fuelwood volume in Maine

#### MBF

- 1000 board feet, used in measuring dimension lumber. It takes about 11 MBF of wood to build an average 1,900 ft<sup>2</sup> house
- Most wood in Maine is now sold on the basis of weight rather than cords or MBF

## Tree Size

#### Seedling

- A tree less than 3' tall

#### Sapling

A small tree between 1" and 4" in diameter

#### Pole

Medium sized trees between 4" and 10" diameter

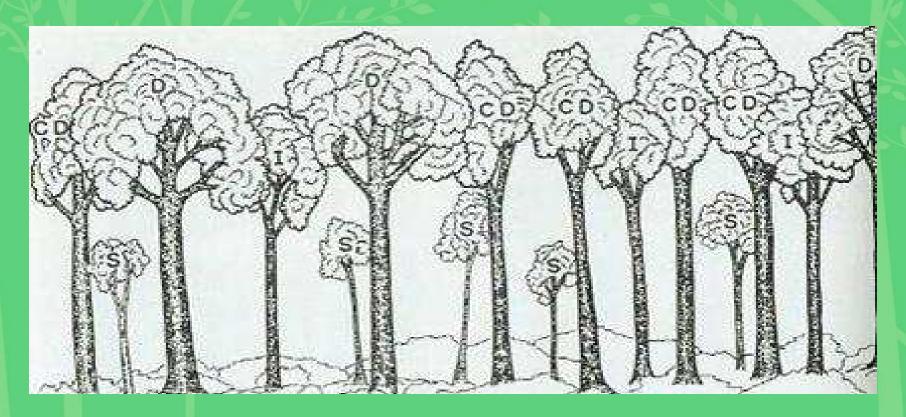
#### Pulp

 Trees larger than 4" that are either poor quality or have not yet reached sawlog size

#### Sawlog

 A tree of sufficient size (generally >8" for softwoods and >10" for hardwoods) to be processed economically on a sawmill

## Crown Class



A tree classification system based on the tree's relative height, foliage density, and ability to intercept light. Crown class measures past growth performance and calls attention to crop trees that could benefit from future thinning and harvest operations.

#### Dominant Trees

 Larger than average trees with broad, well-developed crowns, that receive direct sunlight from all sides and above

#### Codominant Trees

 Average to fairly large trees with medium-sized crowns that form the forest canopy. They receive full light from above but are crowded on the sides

#### Intermediate Trees

 Medium-sized trees with small crowns below the general level of the canopy. They receive little direct light, are poor crop trees and should be removed during thinning operations

#### Suppressed or Overtopped Trees

 Small trees that grow below the tree canopy and receive no direct sunlight from any direction

## Soils

#### Nutrients

 Elements necessary for growth & reproduction, including nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium

#### Soil Texture

 The feel or composition of the soil as determined by the size of the soil particles (sand, silt or clay)

#### Soil Type

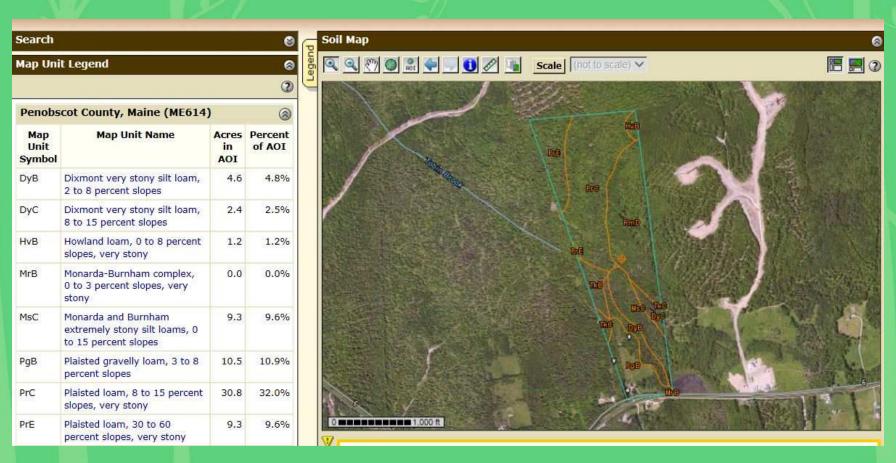
Soils that are alike in all characteristics, including topsoil texture.
 Soil maps and information on site index, erodibility and other properties are available from county Soil Conservation offices

#### Windthrow

Trees uprooted by excessive wind, usually shallow rooted

# If you have the internet, use WebSoilSurvey to map out your property

http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov



## Wildlife

#### Cover

- Any plant that intercepts rain drops before they reach the soil or that holds soil in place
- A hiding place or vegetative shelter from predators or inclement weather

### Forage

 Vegetation such as leaves, stems, buds, and some types of bark that can be eaten for food and energy

#### Perennial

 Plants that live or grow for more than one year, either resprouting from a root system or reseeding

## Plant or Habitat Diversity

A variety of food or cover for wildlife. Variation may occur
over a period of time such as the course of a season.
 Seasonal diversity of food and cover is often critical to
the survival of the species

# Harvesting

#### Clearcut

 A harvesting and regeneration method that removes almost all the trees within a given area. It is most often used to grow trees that require full sunlight to regenerate and grow efficiently.

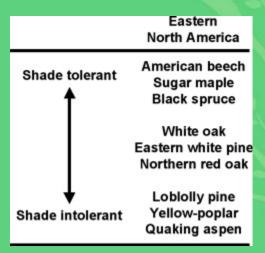
## Thinning

 A tree removal practice that reduces density and competition between trees in a stand. Thinning concentrates growth on fewer, high-quality trees, provides periodic income, and generally enhances tree vigor. Harvests can be heavy or light, depending on objectives

#### Tolerance

The ability of a tree to germinate and grow within the

shade of other trees



## Marketing

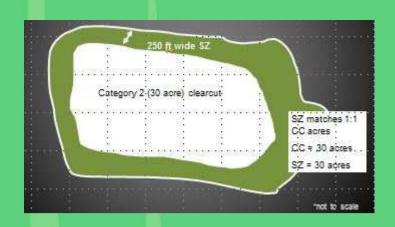
The selling of timber or other forest resources.
 Successful sellers seek a satisfactory price through competition, skillful negotiation, knowledge of timber markets and the aid of a competent broker

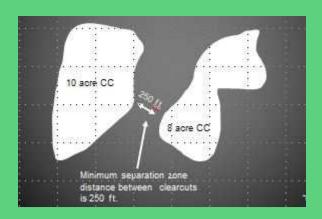
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## Separation Zone

 A harvesting zone left between clearcuts so as not to violate Maine's clearcut law. Separation zones must be at least 250' wide and might need to equal the area of the clearcut, depending on category. They may be partially harvested





## Water Quality

#### Sedimentation

The deposition or settling of soil particles suspended in water

#### Shoreland Zone

– An area adjacent to a stream in which vegetation is maintained or managed to protect water quality. No more than 40% of trees may be removed in the first 75', and no openings may be created. In the 76'-250' zone, no more than 40% of trees may be removed but openings up to 14,000 ft<sup>2</sup> are allowed

#### Water Bar

 A diagonal ditch or hump in a trail that diverts surface water runoff to minimized soil erosion