

# THE FAMILY FOREST CARBON PROGRAM

## PENNSYLVANIA PILOT SUMMARY

### THE PRACTICES

Landowners are committing to one of two practices as part of enrollment:



#### GROWING MATURE FORESTS

Promotes the growth of larger, higher quality trees by only allowing sustainable timber harvests that allow quality trees to grow larger for 20 years.



#### ENHANCING FUTURE FORESTS

Promotes robust regeneration of new forests by requiring the landowner reduce competing and/or unwanted vegetation and invasives over a 10 year period. This will allow quality trees to have the space, sunlight and water needed to grow.

The Family Forest Carbon Program, developed by the American Forest Foundation and The Nature Conservancy, helps empower family forest landowners to address climate change.

The Program offers a unique and credible solution for forest owners with small forest holdings to access carbon markets. Offering a voluntary option for action (rather than a regulatory approach), the Program pays landowners to implement carbon-positive forest management practices that result in increased carbon sequestration and storage, as well as improved wildlife habitat and forest resiliency.

The carbon generated by the landowners is measured and third-party verified using a new cutting-edge methodology designed through Verra's Verified Carbon Standard. Verified carbon credits are then sold to corporate entities interested in reducing their overall carbon emissions.

The Program's goal is to catalyze the storage and sequestration of 20% of family-owned acres across the U.S., generating at least 50 million tons of CO2 equivalents annually.

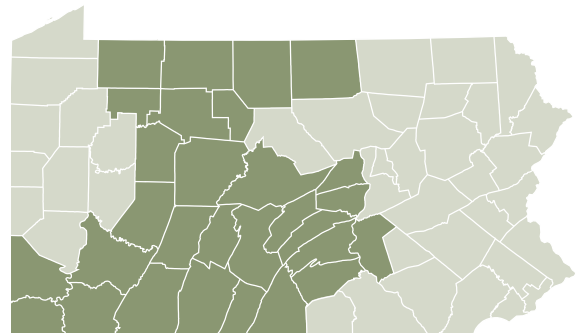
The Program first launched in select counties in Pennsylvania to test hypotheses and processes. This is the summary of those results.

### PILOT REGION

The Pennsylvania Pilot includes

**29**

counties across the state.



“It's expensive to keep our land healthy and maintain the wildlife habitat. We have year-round maintenance and property taxes to pay. We enrolled in the Family Forest Carbon Program because it will provide us a revenue stream to make this work happen.”

— SUSAN BENEDICT, PA LANDOWNER



# THE FAMILY FOREST CARBON PROGRAM

PENNSYLVANIA PILOT RESULTS FROM MAY 2020 - JUNE 2021

## LANDOWNER INTEREST



1,949

small forest owners have expressed interest by inquiring if their property is eligible



169

landowners, owning **26,525** acres have completed a visit with a forester to receive advice on management

## LANDOWNER ENROLLMENT



61

landowners under contract with a total of more than **8,913** acres

144

average acres enrolled per landowner

65%

of landowners are new to forest management (did not have a forest management plan prior)



Top reasons for enrolling:



LEGACY



WILDLIFE



INCOME

## ANTICIPATED IMPACT



283,518

Tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e estimated will be sequestered and stored through their enrolled landowners actions by the end of their contract term. This is equivalent to the greenhouse gas emissions from more than 43,000 cars in a year.



\$2,544,469

Total dollars that will go directly to the enrolled landowners over the length of their contract

## CARBON CREDITS SOLD



\$4.12M

The Program has pre-sold worth of carbon credits to corporations (via long-term Purchase Agreements), with an additional **\$5.4M** in negotiation — all private sector dollars that will go towards rural landowners as they enroll in the Program.

## WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE PROGRAM?



The Program is expanding to the remainder of Pennsylvania, as well as parts of West Virginia and Maryland beginning this summer.



It will also begin the expansion process to 2 new regions in 2021 — the Northeast, starting with Vermont, New York, and Massachusetts; and the Upper Midwest, including Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota.

## CONTACT:

**Christine Cadigan**

Family Forest Carbon Program Senior Director  
American Forest Foundation  
[ccadigan@forestfoundation.org](mailto:ccadigan@forestfoundation.org)

\* Results as of January 2021



American Forest Foundation

