



Kansas Forest Service

2003 Annual Report

Care of Natural Resources and Service to People Through Forestry

The Kansas Forest Service is charged, through State Statute K.A. 76-425, with the responsibility of overseeing the state's forest resources. As a state agency within the Department of Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources at Kansas State University, the Kansas Forest Service's job is to improve, enhance, protect, and conserve the 2.2 million acres of natural forest land and approximately 1 million acres of urban and community forests.

Kansas Forest Service employs 25 full-time employees – 17 professional positions and eight support staff in the following major program areas.

Forest Stewardship

This program provides professional forestry assistance to private landowners in managing their forest lands. Services include on-site visits, long-term Forest Stewardship Management plans, practice plans to implement tree planting and timber stand improvement projects, and follow-up consultations. Forest Stewardship Management plans address landowner's goals of managing for timber, water quality, fish, wildlife, soil erosion, recreation, and aesthetic resources.

Technical assistance is provided to landowners for timber harvest, timber stand improvement, and tree planting. Kansas Forest Service administers a federally funded forestry cost-share program, Forest Land Enhancement Program (FLEP), to assist landowners in establishing forestry practices on their lands. In addition, Kansas Forest Service cooperates with other state and federal natural resource agencies by providing forestry technical assistance.

Forest Products

Loggers and sawmill operators receive assistance in harvesting techniques, processing logs, and utilization and marketing of wood products. There are 65 active sawmills that process Kansas-grown timber into usable wood products.

Conservation Tree Planting

Tree and shrub planting provides important environmental benefits to people, wildlife, and domestic livestock. The program offers low cost tree and shrub seedlings for use in establishing multiple benefit conservation plantings, such as windbreaks, woodlots, erosion control, clean water, wildlife habitat, and Christmas trees.

Community Forestry

The Community Forestry Program offers assistance to cities and towns in organizing local resources to care for and manage public trees. Setting priorities of work; training city employees, tree boards and community residents in proper tree planting, management and maintenance practices; and special educational events are available through the program.

Professional arborists are provided the latest information and training in tree care practices. Municipalities receive program support in Tree City USA and other educational programs and conservation practices designed for populated areas.

Fire Management

Kansas Forest Service is the lead source for wildland fire training in Kansas. Volunteer firefighters are the front line of defense in protecting life and property on 46.4 million acres of non-federal rural land. No-cost training is provided to volunteer rural firefighters on the most up-to-date wildland firefighting techniques. Kansas Forest Service also works with rural fire departments in fire prevention education, primarily using the Smokey Bear Program, for both children and adults.

In partnership with the USDA Forest Service, Kansas Forest Service acquires federal excess military equipment, usually vehicles, and loans it to rural fire departments at no cost for fire protection use. The departments agree to maintain and upgrade the trucks for their use. Assis-

tance is also available for truck design and maintenance, including access to low-cost repair parts.

Kansas Forest Service administers the Volunteer Fire Assistance Program, offering cost-share funding to rural fire departments to purchase firefighting equipment on a matching basis. Additionally, Kansas Forest Service is the clearinghouse for the state Equipment Donation Program that encourages public and private entities to donate used equipment.

Kansas Forest Service is working to address the growing concerns of wildland/urban interface that is rapidly expanding around metropolitan centers. Countywide fire planning to improve fire department capabilities in preventing and suppressing wildland fire also is taking place.

Forest Pest Management

Foresters monitor insect and disease activities on forest land, in communities and conservation tree planting, and recommend appropriate control measures. Kansas Forest Service works cooperatively with the Kansas Department of Agriculture on pest survey and detection and Kansas State University departments of Entomology and Pathology in diagnosis and control.

Conservation Education

Kansas Forest Service is the state cosponsor of Project Learning Tree (PLT), an international, award-winning environmental education program emphasizing the use of trees and forests as windows to the natural world. Kansas Forest Service contracts with the Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education (KACEE) to conduct PLT workshops.

Kansas Forest Service sponsors the annual National Arbor Day Foundation Arbor Day Statewide Poster contest. Fifth graders from across the state are eligible to enter with a poster designed around a tree planting theme.

For more information about the Kansas Forest Service, see our Web site at: www.kansasforests.org

Program Highlights

Forest Stewardship Accomplishments

Activity	No.	Acres
Landowners Assisted	334	NA
Management Plans	71	4,088
Tree Planting Plans	156	1,740

Forest Stewardship Education Program

Educating forest landowners and natural resource professionals is an important component of forest stewardship. A Fall Field Day provided training to 81 landowners on subjects ranging from stream corridor management to what makes your timber valuable. Additionally, Kansas Forest Service participated in 16 forestry educational workshops to 1,131 youth and adults throughout the year.

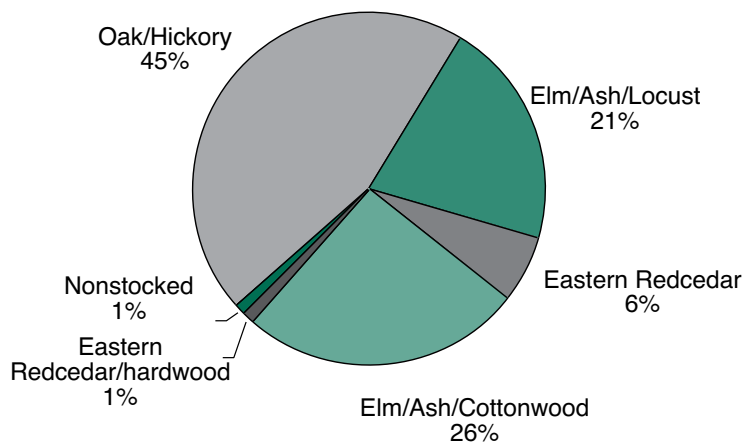
2002 Forest Inventory Data Arrives

According to the 2002 Forest Inventory, the area of forest land in Kansas has remained at 2.2 million acres. The Kansas Forest Service cooperates with the USDA Forest Service to annually inventory the size and condition of Kansas forest land. Following is a summary of statewide inventories.

Facts about Kansas Forests

- 96 percent of the forest land is privately owned
- 61 percent of the ownerships are in tracts less than 50 acres.
- Cull trees (unmarketable) comprise 48 percent all live trees.

Kansas Forest Types by Area



- Half of our forest land is made up of “sawlog-sized” trees (11 inches in diameter or larger).
- Only 33 percent of the wood volume grown each year is harvested annually.

It is likely that the increase in forest land area is associated with the expansion of woodlands into abandoned pasture and changes in classification of forest land since 1994.

Technical Assistance Agreement with NRCS

Kansas Forest Service signed a “Contribution Agreement” with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to provide forestry technical assistance to landowners on forestry practices identified in the Conservation Title of the USDA Farm Bill. District Foresters work with NRCS District Conservationists in developing plans for forestry practices and inspecting practices after installation.

Chipping and Grinding Demonstration

Wood waste generated at sawmills and secondary processing facilities can become a problem. With many mills being located in remote areas and burning regulations becoming more stringent, processors are looking for both an environmental friendly and economical means to utilize this resource. A “chipping and grinding” demonstration was held at Stinnett Timbers, a sawmill and pallet manufacturing facility in Anderson County to demonstrate equipment available to convert wood waste into mulch. Many public and private organizations and business cosponsored the event.

Forest Land Enhancement Program (FLEP)

Kansas has obligated all of the \$97,804 cost-share funding available in 2003 to 47 landowners. Forestry practices to be implemented include: timber stand improvement, windbreak establishment and renovation, fencing riparian woodlands to remove livestock, and riparian forest buffer establishment.



Kansas Forest Land Area				
Years Between Inventory	Inventory Year	Forest Land Acres	Increase in Acres Between Inventories	Percent Land Area
N/A	N/A	4,480,000*	N/A	8.5
N/A	1937	1,238,000	N/A	2.4
28	1965	1,349,800	111,800	2.6
16	1981	1,358,700	8,900	2.6
13	1994	1,546,100	187,400	3
7	2001	2,216,300	670,200	4.2
1	2002	2,229,000	12,700	4.2

*estimate prior to Euro settlement

Conservation Tree Planting

More than 648,575 trees and shrubs were sold to 2,528 landowners. Seedlings were planted statewide for a variety of purposes.

Type of Planting	Orders Taken	Plants Used	Acres
Home Windbreaks	1,318	219,370	645
Field Windbreaks	300	119,890	353
Livestock Windbreaks	228	85,670	252
Wildlife	457	113,165	236
Riparian Plantings	94	74,760	62
Woodlots	100	27,020	61
Christmas Trees	31	8,700	9
Totals	2528	648,575	1,618

Walnut Council International

Kansas Forest Service planned, sponsored and hosted a 4-day Walnut Council International Meeting at Pittsburg State University. The meeting provided many educational opportunities to 195 people in the growth, care, and marketing of black walnut and other fine quality hardwoods. Pittsburg State University staff provided tours and demonstrations at the Technology Center and area landowner, George Belcher, made his land available for field demonstrations. There also was a field tour of Kansas State University's Pecan Experiment Field located in Chetopa lead by Dr. Bill Reid.

Formation of the Kansas Forest Products Association

As with any business, continued education, communication, and networking are key elements of success. This is especially true with the forest industry where each step of the process from growing, harvesting, processing and manufacturing wood products requires specialized skills and resources. To help facilitate educational opportunities and open lines of communication the Kansas Forest Service provided guidance and support for the formation of the Kansas Forest Products Association (KFPA). KFPA is composed of landowners, loggers, sawmill operators, and secondary processors from across the state. Its first official public event was an open house at Kansas Hardwoods, Inc. in Belvue. Activities included a chain saw safety and maintenance program, saw-milling, pole peeling, tub grinding, and chain saw carving demonstrations. A tremendous amount of interest was generated by the more than 175 people attending.

Master Fire Planning

One Countywide Master Fire Plan was completed this year for Franklin County. On-going efforts continue on nine additional plans. Thirteen more counties have requested assistance and are currently on a waiting list. This program is a cost-effective means for a county to get an assessment of all fire districts within the county. Plans include equipment inventories, county infrastructure, water sources, ISO rating, communication systems, and fire personnel. Goals are divided into short- and long-range improvements and all goals are reviewed after 3 to 5 years to evaluate the actions taken in areas where changes were recommended.

Fire Prevention

Smokey Bear made 30 appearances at community celebrations and events promoting fire safety. Approximately 17,000 pieces of fire prevention material were sent to fire districts and community service organizations at no cost, for distribution to children and adults.

Wildfire Training

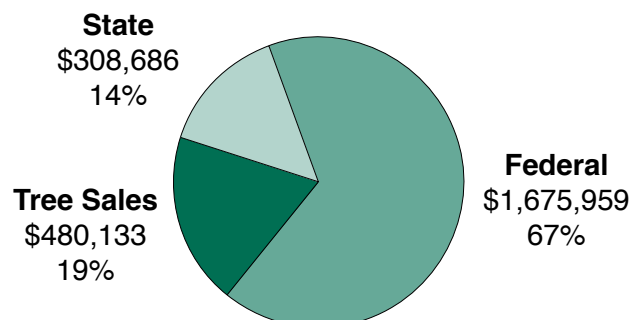
Kansas Forest Service presented 10 wildland fire training courses to 208 firefighters. The primary course, *Kansas Wildfire Training*, is an 8-hour course that discusses safety, fire behavior, and proper firefighting techniques. Additionally, 46 students received instruction during National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) certification courses.

Scholarships totaling \$6,358 were awarded to 51 students for 192 hours of other NWCG courses. Total training hours increased 52 percent from 2002, thanks in part to the addition of a full-time Fire Training Specialist.



Funding Sources

Kansas Forest Service receives funding from three primary sources. Federal financial assistance comes from cooperative agreements with the USDA Forest Service to support primarily the delivery of our Forest Stewardship, Forest Products, Forest Inventory, Community Forestry, Fire Management, Forest Pest Management, and Conservation Education programs. State general funds are used to support these programs and to help match the federal funds. Our Conservation Tree Planting Program operates on tree sale receipts.



Equipment Donation Program

Legislative changes in the Kansas Tort Law allows unused equipment to be donated to fire and emergency medical units and have the recipient assume all future liability for the equipment. Kansas Forest Service has accepted the responsibility of being the repository for such donations. Between July 1 and December 31, 2003, more than 185 pieces of equipment had been received, of which, 38 pieces were distributed to fire departments, saving an estimated \$32,000. Items donated include hose, personal protective equipment, SCBA, and fire pumps.



Some of the equipment available for fire departments through the Equipment Donation Program.

Riley County Fire Assessment

This year, Kansas Forest Service completed the first wildland/urban interface hazard assessment in Kansas. The study shows locations and structures that are at risk from wildland fire within Riley County. Results will be used to focus mitigation efforts in the areas that will benefit from the creation of defensible space.

Cost Share Funds Available

Kansas Forest Service awarded cost-share grants through two federal assistance programs: Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) allocated \$180,000 to 107 rural fire departments and Rural Fire Assistance provided \$16,397 to four eligible departments to purchase personal protective gear, radios, and other firefighting equipment. This year, 174 equipment and project requests were submitted totaling \$941,702.



Forty one fire departments received trucks through the excess equipment program in 2003.

2003 Funding Recipients

Protective Clothing (VFA)	
Iola Vol. Inc RFD (AL)	\$2,000
Ellinwood Fire Dept. (BT)	\$2,000
Butler Co. Fire Dist. 2 (BU)	\$2,000
Andover Fire & Rescue (BU)	\$2,000
Butler Co. Fire Dist. 8 (BU)	\$1,800
Englewood Fire Dept. (CA)	\$2,000
Minneola Fire Dept. (CA)	\$1,000
Ashland Fire/Rescue (CA)	\$1,125
Baxter Springs VFD (CK)	\$1,000
Galena Fire Dept. (CK)	\$2,000
Cowley Co. Fire Dist. 4 (CL)	\$1,160
St. Francis Fire Dept. (CN)	\$2,000
Chautauqua Co. Fire Dist. 1 (CQ)	\$1,885
Hepler Fire Dept. (CR)	\$2,000
Abilene Fire Dept. (DK)	\$2,000
Kinsley Fire Dept. (ED)	\$2,000
Trenton & Jackson Fire Dept. (ED)	\$1,993
Richmond Consolidated FD (FR)	\$2,000
Pottawatomie Twp. Fire Dept. (FR)	\$2,000
Grinnell Fire Dept. (GO)	\$1,940
Burrton Fire Dist. 5 (HV)	\$2,000
Harvey Co. Fire Dist. 1 (HV)	\$2,000
Jefferson Co. Fire Dist. 11 (JF)	\$2,000
Sarcoxie Fire Dist. (JF)	\$1,250
Union Twp. Fire Dist. #9 (JF)	\$2,000
Rural Twp. Fire & EMS (JF)	\$1,914
Kearny Co. Fire Dist. 2 (KE)	\$3,000
Linn Valley VFD (LN)	\$2,000
Fairmount Twp. Fire Dept. (LV)	\$2,000
Stranger Twp. Fire Dept. (LV)	\$700
Lyon Co. Fire Dist. 5 (LY)	\$2,000
Marion Fire Dept. (MN)	\$2,000
Marion Co. Fire Dist. 5 (MN)	\$2,000
McPherson Co. Fire Dist. 6 (MP)	\$2,000
White City VFD (MR)	\$1,156
Axtell Vol. Fire Dept. (MS)	\$2,000
Oketo/Balderson Fire Dist. 5 (MS)	\$1,680
Logan Twp. Fire Dist. 2 (MS)	\$1,025
Marshall Co. Fire Dist. 9 (MS)	\$1,536
Nemaha Co. Fire Dist. 6 (NM)	\$1,627
Ottawa Co. Fire Dist. 4 (OT)	\$2,000
Phillips Co. Fire Dist. 2 (PL)	\$2,000
Riley Co. Fire Dist. 1 (RL)	\$935
Haven Fire Dept. (RN)	\$2,000
Wabaunsee Twp. Fire Dept. (WB)	\$2,000
Neodesha Fire Dept. (WL)	\$2,000
Woodson Co. Fire Dept. (WO)	\$4,000

Self-contained Breathing Apparatus (VFA)	
Atchison Co. Fire Dist. 2 (AT)	\$2,000
Galatia Vol. Fire Dept. (BT)	\$2,000
Chautauqua Co. Fire Dist 2 (CQ)	\$2,000
Pottawatomie Tribal Fire Dept. (JA)	\$2,000
Kickapoo Twp. Fire Dept. (LV)	\$2,000
Marion Co. Fire Dist. 1 (MN)	\$1,993
Nemaha Co. Fire Dist. 4 (NM)	\$2,000
Cuba Fire Dist. 4 (RP)	\$2,000
Waldo-Paradise-Natoma FD (RS)	\$2,000
Russell Co. Fire Dist. 5 (RS)	\$1,950
Bentley Vol. Fire Dept. (SG)	\$2,000
Gaylord Fire Dept. (SM)	\$2,000
Smith Co. Fire Dist. 1 (SM)	\$2,000
Lebanon Fire Dept. (SM)	\$2,000

Communications Equipment (VFA)	
Beverly-Westfall Fire Dept. (LC)	\$2,000
Easton Twp. Fire Dept. (LV)	\$2,000
Drexel CFPA, Inc. (MI)	\$1,050
Culver Fire Dist. 5 (OT)	\$1,800
Garfield Fire Dept. (PN)	\$1,350
Iuka Fire Dept. (PR)	\$823
Cheney Fire Dept. (SG)	\$1,818

Rural Fire Assistance Recipients	
Linn County Fire Department (LN) Dry hydrant materials	\$3,960
Lyon County Fire Dist. 5 (LY) Protective clothing	\$5,228
Phillips County Fire Dist. 3B (PL) Hand held radios	\$6,075
Stafford County Fire Dist. 1 (SF) Wildland fire tools	\$1,134

Kansas Forest Service Emergency Fire Assistance Fund	
Miltonvale Rural Fire Dist. 3 (CD) Radio repeater system	\$3,500
Ashland Fire & Rescue (CA) Rural tanker fill site materials	\$2,303
Morris Co. Fire Dist. 13 (MR) Rural water supply equipment	\$960
Sheridan Co. Fire Dept. (SD) Firefighter I and II training library	\$4,000

Total Funding Assistance	\$207,160
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Other Engine and Station Equipment (VFA)	
Hoisington Fire Dept. (BT)	\$1,062
Beaver Fire Dept. (BT)	\$1,678
Potwin Fire Dept. (BU)	\$2,000
Whitewater River CFD (BU)	\$250
Glasco RFD #2 (CD)	\$2,000
Cowley Co. Fire Dist. 2 (CL)	\$2,000
Comanche Co. Fire Dept. (CM)	\$2,351
Elgin RFD 5 (CQ)	\$2,000
Walnut Rural Fire Dept. (CR)	\$2,000
Herington Fire Dept. (DK)	\$1,100
Mayetta Fire Dist. 1 (JA)	\$1,100
Hoyt Fire Dist. 3 (JA)	\$1,250
Kentucky Twp. Fire Dist. 2 (JF)	\$2,000
Zenda Fire Dept. (KM)	\$2,000
Bartlett-Hackberry Fire Dept. (LB)	\$2,000
Osage Twp. Fire Dept. (LB)	\$1,900
Reno Twp. Fire Dept. (LV)	\$706
Olpe Fire Dist. 1 (LY)	\$1,941
Marion Co. Fire Dist. 6 (MN)	\$1,542
Marion Co. Fire Dist. 7 (MN)	\$2,000
Marion Co. Fire Dist. 2 (MN)	\$988
Marshall Co. Fire Dist. 6 (MS)	\$1,000
Nemaha Co. Fire Dist. 3 (NM)	\$332
Ottawa Co. Fire Dist. 2 (OT)	\$2,000
Ottawa Co. Fire Dist. 6 (OT)	\$1,454
Phillips Co. Fire Dist. 3B (PL)	\$1,772
Burdett Fire Dept. (PN)	\$2,000
Westmoreland Fire Dept. (PT)	\$1,418
Rush Co. Fire Dist. 6 (RH)	\$875
Reno Co. Fire Dist. 3 (RN)	\$2,000
Gypsum Fire Dist. 1 (SA)	\$2,000
Shawnee Co. Fire Dist. 2 (SN)	\$2,000
Oxford Fire Dist. 3 (SU)	\$1,725
Sumner Co. Fire Dist. 12 (SU)	\$332
Sumner Co. Fire Dist. 9 (SU)	\$387
Wabaunsee Co. Fire Dist. 4 (WB)	\$270
McFarland Fire Dept. (WB)	\$2,000
Wabaunsee Co. Fire Dist. 2 (WB)	\$2,000
Washington Co. Fire Dist. 10 (WA)	\$1,730



Arborist Training and Certification:

The Kansas Forest Service cosponsored the Kansas Arborist Association's Annual Arborist Training Course. The goal of the week-long training course is to teach tree care professionals proper management and maintenance techniques to improve the quality of tree care across the state.

Forty-one (41) tree care professionals participated in the hands-on training course. Since 1975, more than 1,300 grounds keepers and public, private, and municipal arborists have completed the training.

Tree City USA:

Kansas communities celebrated another successful year with the Tree City USA Program. Kansas began with 11 Tree City USA communities in 1976 and has grown to 101 communities representing over 63 percent of the state's population. Tree City USA is an awards and recogni-

tion program sponsored by the National Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the Kansas Forest Service. To qualify, communities must have : (1) an established tree board or other responsible group or department designated by the city with responsibility for public trees; (2) an approved city tree ordinance; (3) an Arbor Day ceremony; and (4) spend \$2 per capita on public tree resources.

Forest Health Management

Kansas Forest Service entered a cooperative agreement with the Kansas Department of Agriculture, Plant Protection and Weed Control Program, to conduct forest insect and disease surveys across the state. The focus was windbreaks and park trees. Entomologists and pathologists used a variety of means to assess the health of the states planted forests.

State Forester Awards:

Community Forestry Award:

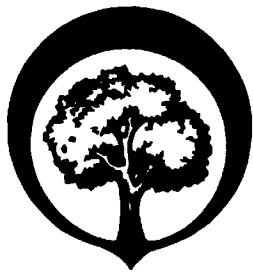
Cheryl Mussatto
Osage City, Kansas

Arbor Day Poster Contest Award:

Sam Small
Home schooled
Hutchinson, Kansas

Forest Stewardship Landowner of the Year Award

Ed Fry
Garden City, Kansas



TREE CITY USA®



Sam Small's winning Arbor Day poster



2003 Tree City USA Recipients and Years in Program	
Abilene	12
Anthony	19
Arkansas City	10
Atchison	22
*Atwood	8
Baldwin City	1
*Bel Aire	8
Beloit	27
Blue Rapids	22
Bonner Springs	18
Burlington	11
Chanute	25
Clay Center	28
*Clearwater	8
Clyde	2
Concordia	11
Council Grove	7
Cunningham	11
*Derby	11
De Soto	2
Dodge City	28
Effingham	10
*El Dorado	11
Ellis	4
Emporia	18
Fairway	19
*Forbes Field ANG	7
Formoso	19
Ft. Riley	17
Garden City	26
Gardner	1
Garnett	15
Goodland	25
Great Bend	21

2003 Tree City USA Recipients and Years in Program	
Halstead	26
Harper	8
Haven	24
Hays	25
Haysville	4
Herington	15
Hesston	19
Hillsboro	9
Hoisington	21
*Hutchinson	10
Junction City	28
Kiowa	8
Lansing	4
*Lawrence	26
Leavenworth	10
Leawood	8
Lenexa	16
Liberal	21
*Lindsborg	19
Louisburg	7
Lyndon	3
Manhattan	27
Mankato	23
*Marquette	9
*Marysville	24
McConnell AFB	10
*McPherson	26
Meade	1
Merriam	19
Mission Hills	12
*Mulvane	13
Newton	28
Oberlin	18
*Olathe	21

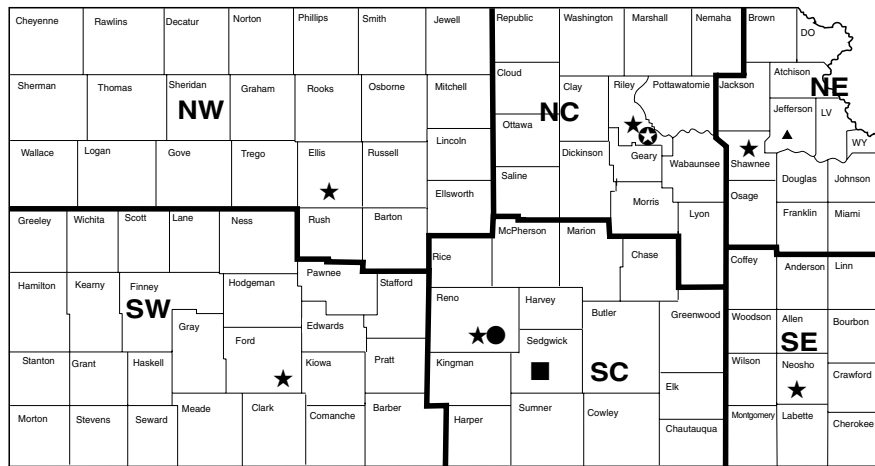
2003 Tree City USA Recipients and Years in Program	
Osage City	13
Oskaloosa	9
*Oswego	14
*Ottawa	5
*Overland Park	25
*Park City	5
Parsons	15
Phillipsburg	17
Plains	1
Prairie Village	7
Pratt	10
*Roeland Park	11
Russell	18
Salina	14
*Sedgwick	6
*Shawnee	7
South Hutchinson	3
*Spring Hill	8
St. John	8
Tonganoxie	5
Topeka	17
Troy	7
Ulysses	25
Valley Center	10
Valley Falls	9
Wakeeney	15
Wamego	16
Waterville	27
Westwood	16
Westwood Hills	7
Wichita	18
Windom	11
Winfield	23
* Growth Award Recipients	



*For more information
about Kansas Forest
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www.kansasforests.org*



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Ross Hauck - Fire Protection Specialist
Bob Atchison - Rural Forestry Coordinator
Eric Berg - Community Forestry Coordinator
Joshua Pease - Conservation Forester
Mark Haller - Conservation Specialist



Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

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