



Kansas Forest Service

2004 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 2.2 million acres of forestland and approximately 1 million acres of urban and community forests.

The Forest Service employs 27 full-time employees — 20 professional positions and seven support staff. The following are descriptions of the major programs and 2004 highlights.

Rural Forestry

Foresters provide professional forestry assistance to private landowners to manage their forestlands. 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.

Sawmills process Kansas-grown timber into usable wood products. Loggers and sawmill operators receive assistance in harvesting techniques, processing logs, and utilization and marketing of 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 conser-

vation plantings such as windbreaks, woodlots, erosion control, clean water, wildlife habitat, and Christmas trees.

Community Forestry

Assistance is provided to cities and towns to organize local resources to care for and manage public trees. Services available include setting priorities of work; training city employees, tree boards and community residents in proper tree planting, management, and maintenance practices; and special educational events.

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

Fire Management

Eighty-seven percent of the fire suppression forces in Kansas are volunteers. Along with a small number of career firefighters, they provide protection to life and property on 46.4 million acres of non-federal land. Training is provided to these 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.

Under the authority of the USDA Forest Service, excess federal military equipment, usually vehicles, is acquired and loaned to rural fire departments. In return, the departments agree to

maintain and convert the equipment to fire suppression apparatus. Plans for vehicle conversion to fire apparatus, recommendations for vehicle maintenance, and access to low-cost repair parts are also available.

Federal cost-share funding to rural fire departments is available to purchase firefighting equipment on a matching basis. The Equipment Donation Program, a clearinghouse program that encourages public and private entities to donate used equipment for redistribution, is administered through Kansas Forest Service.

Work is being done to address the growing concerns about the wildland/urban interface that is rapidly expanding around metropolitan centers. Countywide fire planning is used to improve fire department capabilities in preventing and suppressing wildland fire.

Forest Health

Foresters monitor insect and disease activities on forestland, in communities, and conservation tree planting, and recommend appropriate control measures. Technical support is obtained from the Kansas Department of Agriculture for pest survey and detection and Kansas State University departments of Entomology and Plant Pathology for diagnosis and control.

Forest Inventory

In cooperation with the USDA Forest Service, foresters gather data from forest plots to determine the extent and condition of forest-



land. The information allows the forest industry to know what forest resources are available and state government to focus personnel and funding to address important management issues.

Conservation Education

Kansas Forest Service is the state cosponsor of Project Learning Tree (PLT), an international award winning environmental education program. The Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education (KACEE) contracts to conduct PLT workshops. Kansas Forest Service also sponsors the annual National Arbor Day Foundation Statewide Arbor Day Poster Contest.



Forest Resource Specialist Deborah Goard measures trees as part of the 2004 inventory.

Program Highlights

Forest Stewardship Accomplishments

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

Important Facts about Kansas Forests

- 94 percent of the forestland is privately owned
- 61 percent of the ownerships are in tracts less than 50 acres.
- Cull trees (unmarketable) comprise 48 percent of all live hardwood tree volume.
- Half of our forestland is made up of "sawlog-sized" trees (11 or more inches in diameter).
- 33 percent of the wood volume grown each year is harvested.

Fall Field Day

Educating forest landowners and natural resource professionals is an important component of forest stewardship. A Fall Field Day provided training to 215 landowners and natural resource professionals on black walnut management. Additionally, 29 forestry educational workshops for 2,228 youth and adults were conducted.

Forestland Enhancement Program (FLEP)

Kansas obligated all of the \$97,804 cost-share funding on 27 agroforestry, 15 forest stand improvement, five reforestation/afforestation, and two water quality improvement and watershed protection practices.

Marais des Cygnes Watershed Forestry Initiative

A watershed forester was hired through a contract with Lake Region RC&D to implement forestry practices in the Marais des Cygnes River Basin to improve water quality. The grant is funded by Section 319 of the Clean Water Act through the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Through field tours, presentations, news releases, and publications, the watershed forester is increasing the awareness of the important role healthy woodlands play in water quality. The forester met on-site with more than 20 landowners to help establish riparian tree plantings and improve timber stands. A cost-share program also has been developed to encourage the adoption of forestry practices.

Forestland Health Becomes a Resource Concern

Forestland health was recognized as a resource concern by the Natural Resource Conservation Service. The state conservationist targeted \$100,000 of Fiscal Year 2005 money to cover 50 percent of landowner's cost to implement forest stand improvement practices through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program.

Kansas Tree Farm Program

One hundred five Kansas tree farmers are promoting the growth of renewable forest resources while protecting environmental benefits on 12,247 acres of forestland. A new state tree farm committee has revitalized the program by endorsing new program standards for certification.

Kansas Forestland Area

Years Between Inventory	Inventory Year	Forestland 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

*estimate prior to Euro settlement



Doyle Derrick (second from left) receives the 2004 Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year Award at the Fall Field Day. Also pictured from left to right are Leonard Ellis, Chair of Kansas State Tree Farm Committee, Kevin Viestenz, STIHL, and Ray Aslin, State Forester.

Conservation Tree Planting

More than 677,000 trees and shrubs were sold to more than 3,000 landowners. Seedlings were planted statewide for a variety of purposes outlined below.

Type of Planting	Acres
Home Windbreaks	1,080
Field Windbreaks	204
Livestock Windbreaks	150
Wildlife	168
Riparian Plantings	45
Woodlots	51
Christmas Trees	8
Total Acres	1,706

Lumber Grading Short Course

A 3-day Hardwood Lumber Grading Short Course was held in Emporia. In cooperation with the Kansas Forest Products Association, National Hardwood Lumber Association, Lyon County Extension, and Flint Hills RC&D, this first-time event attracted 25 participants. As a result of the interest generated, a \$1,500 scholarship was awarded to a Kansan to attend the National Hardwood Lumber Association's comprehensive, 14-week hardwood lumber grading course.

Logger/Chainsaw Safety and Training Workshop Held

Two Logger/Chainsaw Safety and Training workshops were conducted in northeast and southeast Kansas. More than 100 people participated in the two events cosponsored by the Kansas Forest Products Association, Forest Industry Safety and Training Alliance, Kansas Tree Farm Committee, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, Glacial Hills RC&D, and K-State Research and Extension.

Wildfire Training

Kansas Forest Service presented 57 wildland fire training courses to 294 firefighters. The primary course, *Kansas Wildfire Training*, is an 8-hour course focusing on safety, fire behavior, and proper firefighting techniques. Of those 294, 52 received instruction through National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) certification courses and an Incident Qualification Card. Training scholarships totaling \$9,292 were awarded to 98 students attending NWCG courses.

Cost Share Funds Available

Cost-share grants through two federal assistance programs were awarded. Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) allocated \$172,000 to 110 rural fire departments and Rural Fire Assistance provided \$16,397 to four eligible departments to purchase personal protective gear, radios and other firefighting equipment.

Master Fire Planning

Fire department data was collected in five counties. Nine more counties have requested assistance and are currently on a waiting list. Master fire planning is a cost-effective way for counties to get an assessment of all fire districts within the county. Plans include equipment inventories, county infrastructure,



Live Wildfire Training for Volunteer Firefighters.

water sources, ISO rating, communication systems, and fire personnel. Goals consist of both short- and long-range improvements. All goals will be reviewed and the corrective actions evaluated in areas where changes were recommended.

Fire Prevention

Smokey Bear made 31 appearances at community celebrations and events, promoting fire safety. Approximately 13,000 pieces of fire prevention material were sent to fire



Smokey Bear fire prevention is an interactive prevention program.

districts and community service organizations for distribution to children and adults.

Equipment Donation Program

The program continues to serve fire departments in need of good quality, used equipment. Six hundred seventy nine pieces of equipment were donated valued at \$206,000. Of these, 457 pieces valued at \$121,270 were returned to fire departments.



This load of hose was one of many donations that are making the Equipment Donation Program successful.

Volunteer Fire Assistance	
Admire City & Rural Fire (LY)	\$2,000
Athol City & Rural Fire Dept. (SM)	\$1,315
Barber Co. RFD #1 (BA))	\$1,806
Bazine RFD (NS)	\$2,000
Beattie Rural Fire Dept. (MS)	\$1,237
Belleville Rural Fire Dist. #3 (CQ)	\$1,387
Blue Tnsp. Fire Dist. #5 (PT)	\$2,000
Bourbon Co. Fire Dist. #3 (BB)	\$1,806
Brownell RFD (NS)	\$1,305
Burlingame Fire Dist. #6 (OS)	\$2,000
Butler Co. Fire Dist. #7 (BU)	\$2,000
Butler Co. Fire Dist.#3 (BU)	\$2,000
Chautauqua Co. Fire Dist. #1 (CQ)	\$2,000
Chautauqua Co. Fire Dist. #2 (CQ)	\$546
Cheney Fire Dept (SG)	\$810
Chetopa Fire Dept. (LB)	\$1,741
Claflin Fire Dist. #1 (BT)	\$1,859
Clifton RFD (WS)	\$1,993
Columbus Fire Dept. (CK)	\$435
Cowley Co. Fire Dist. #2 (CL)	\$1,533
Cowley Co. Fire Dist. #3 (CL)	\$1,700
Cowley Co. Fire Dist. #4 (CL)	\$610
Cowley Co. Fire Dist. #8 (CL)	\$2,000
Doniphan Co. RFD. #1 (DP)	\$2,000
Drexel CFPA, Inc (MI)	\$849
Edna Volunteer Fire Dept. (LB)	\$1,070
Ellinwood Fire Dept. (BT)	\$750
Ellsworth Fire Dept. (EW)	\$1,955
Ford Co. Fire & EMS (FO)	\$2,000
Galena Fire Dept. (CK)	\$2,000
Gypsum-City (SA)	\$1,555
Hanover City Fire Dept (WS)	\$1,480
Harvey Co. Fire Dist. #1 (HV)	\$1,299
Hesston Fire Dept (HV)	\$1,934
Hiawatha Fire Dept. (BR)	\$2,000
Hope Fire Dept. (DK)	\$2,000

Volunteer Fire Assistance	
Hoyt Fire Dist. (JA)	\$2,000
Jefferson Co. Fire Dist. #11 (JF)	\$1,742
Jefferson Tnsp. #10 (JF)	\$2,000
Jewell Co. Fire Dist. #6 (JW)	\$720
Jewell RFD (JW)	\$2,000
Kaw Tnsp. Fire Dept. (JF)	\$1,378
Kearny Co. Fire Dist. #2 (KE)	\$2,000
Kinsley Fire Dept. (ED)	\$1929
LaCrosse-Brookdale F Dist #4 (RH)	\$2000
Lebanon Fire Dept. (SM)	\$2000
Liberty Tnsp.-Woodbine RFD (DK)	\$765
Longford Rural Fire Dept. # 1 (CY)	\$2,000
Marion Co. 4 th FD (MN)	\$1,201
Marion Co. Fire Dist. #1 (MN)	\$1,639
Marion Co. Fire Dist. #3 (MN)	\$1,827
Marion Co. Fire Dist. #3 (MN)	\$2,000
Marion Co. Fire Dist. #7 (MN)	\$2,000
Marion Fire Dept. (MN)	\$1,130
Marshall Co. Fire Dist. #7 (MS)	\$2,000
Marshall Co. Fire Dist. #9 (MS)	\$970
Marysville Fire Dept. (MS)	\$2,000
McFarland Fire Dept. (WB)	\$1,148
McLouth-City (JF)	\$1,350
McPherson Co. Fire Dist. #9 (MP)	\$2,000
Miltonvale Rural Fire Dist. #3 (CD)	\$1,947
Mitchell-Cloud-Ottawa RFD #1	\$2,000
Morrill Volunteer Fire Dept. (BR)	\$1,467
Morris Co. Fire Dist. #3 (MR)	\$1,564
Mount Hope Fire Dept. (SG)	\$1,959
Munden-Narka RFD (RP)	\$2,000
Ohio Tnsp. Fire Dept. (FR)	\$2,000
Oketo/Balderson RFD #5 (MS)	\$1,556
Osage Co. Fire Dist. #3(OS)	\$2,000
Osage Co. Fire Dist. #5 (OS)	\$1,976
Osborne Co. RFD #1 (OB)	\$942
Oxford/Rural Twp. Fire Dist #3 (SU)	\$747

Volunteer Fire Assistance	
Phillips Co. Fire Dist. #2 (PL)	\$2,000
Plainville RFD (RO)	\$2,000
Potwin Fire Dept. (BU)	\$2,000
Rawlins Co. Fire Dept. (RA)	\$2,000
Rawlins Co. Fire Dist. #2 (RA)	\$1,964
Reno Tnsp. Fire Dept. (LV)	\$437
Riley Co. Fire Dist. #1 (RL)	\$1,947
Rural Tnsp. Fire & EMS (JF)	\$1,978
Russell Co Fire Dist. #5 (RS)	\$2,000
S. Hutchinson Fire Dept. (RN)	\$2,000
Saline Co. Fire Dist. #6 (SA)	\$531
Sarcoxie Fire Dist #4 (JF)	\$1,267
Sedgwick Volunteer Fire Dept. (HV)	\$1,350
Sherman Tnsp. Fire Dept. (CR)	\$2,000
Sherman Tnsp. RFD (DK)	\$1,175
Solomon Volunteer Fire Dept. (DK)	\$2,000
St. Francis Fire Dept. (CN)	\$672
Stockton RFD (RO)	\$2,000
Stranger Twp. Fire Dept. (LV)	\$1,000
Tipton City Fire Dept. (MC)	\$2,000
Tipton Rural Fire Dept. #2 (MC)	\$2,000
Tonganoxie Tnsp. Fire Dept. (LV)	\$1,892
Toronto Tnsp. Fire Dept (WO)	\$1,492
Waldo-Paradise-Natoma F D #3 (RS)	\$1,966
Washington Co. RFD #3 (WS)	\$1,478
Washington Co. RFD #8 (WS)	\$1,860
Washington Tnsp. Fire Dept. (BR)	\$1,647
Westmoreland Fire Dept. (PT)	\$1,212
White City Vol. Fire Dept. (MR)	\$338
Whitewater River CFD (BU)	\$1,167
Woodson Co. RFD (WO)	\$2,000
Rural Fire Assistance	
Linn Co. Fire Department (LN)	\$4,914
Lyon Co. Fire Dist. 5 (LY)	\$5,940
Phillips Co. Fire Dist. 3B (PL)	\$3,917
Stafford County Fire Dist. 1 (SF)	\$1,668

Community Forestry Program Accomplishments

Technical Assists	235
Communities Assisted	135
Tree Planting Projects	25 (868 trees)
Tree Care Projects	38
Public Tree Assessments	18
Public Tree Inventories	9
Management Plans	7
Training & Outreach Events	64 (3,523 participants)



Hands-on training opportunities are emphasized during the week-long arborists training course.

Training and Arborist Certification

Kansas Forest Service cosponsored the Kansas Arborist Association's Annual Arborist Training Course. The course teaches tree care professionals proper management and maintenance techniques to improve the quality of tree care across the state.

Forty-one tree care professionals participated in the hands-on training course. Since 1975, more than 1,340 groundskeepers and public, private, and municipal arborists have completed the training.

Statewide community forestry training efforts continue to be a growing need and focus. With coordination and support of the Kansas Arborists Association and Kansas Nursery and Landscape Association, training topics included "New and Improved Techniques for Greening Communities," "Plant Health Care," "Detection and Prevention of Tree Defects," and "Proper Tree Planting Techniques." The 15 training workshops attracted 740 participants from 131 communities.

Tree City USA:

Kansas communities celebrated a very successful year with the Tree City USA Program. Kansas began with 11 Tree City USA communities in 1976 and has grown to 110 communities representing more than 63 percent of the state's population. Tree City USA is an awards and

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

2004 Accomplishments:

Number of Tree City USAs	110
Number of Tree Board Members	558
Trees Planted	16,618
Trees Pruned	86,059
Trees Removed	8,739
Total Dollars Spent by Communities	\$10.3 million

State Forester Awards

Community Forestry Award

Franklin Fisher, Waterville, Kansas

Vern Wadsworth, Sedgwick, Kansas

Arbor Day Poster Contest Award

Tillie Hall

Halls of Liberty Christian Academy

Garden City, Kansas

Teacher: Chris Hall



Tillie Hall, Halls of Liberty Christian Academy, Garden City, winner of the State Arbor Day Poster Contest entitled "Trees are Terrific ... in Cities and Towns!"

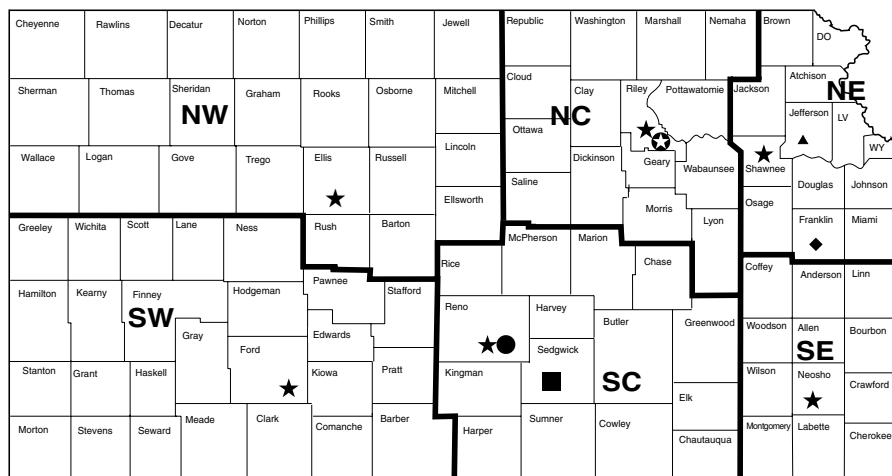


Vern Wadsworth, Sedgwick, (left) and Franklin Fisher, Waterville, (right) receiving the State Forester's Award for Community Forestry from Ray Aslin, State Forester.

2004 Tree City USA Recipients and Years in Program		2004 Tree City USA Recipients and Years in Program		2004 Tree City USA Recipients and Years in Program	
Abilene	13	Haven	25	*Osage City	14
Anthony	20	Hays	26	Oskaloosa	10
Arkansas City	11	Haysville	5	Oswego	15
Atchison	23	Herington	16	*Ottawa	6
Atwood	9	Hesston	20	*Overland Park	26
*Baldwin City	2	Hiawatha	5	Oxford	6
*Bel Aire	9	Hillsboro	10	*Park City	6
Beloit	28	Hoisington	22	Paola	1
Blue Rapids	23	*Hutchinson	11	Parsons	16
Bonner Springs	19	Iola	4	Phillipsburg	18
Burlington	12	Junction City	29	Plains	2
Chanute	26	Kiowa	9	Prairie Village	8
Clay Center	29	Lake Quivira	10	Pratt	11
Clyde	3	Lansing	5	*Roeland Park	12
Concordia	12	*Lawrence	27	Rose Hill	1
Council Grove	8	Leavenworth	11	Russell	19
Cunningham	12	Leawood	9	Salina	15
*Derby	12	Lenexa	17	*Sedgwick	7
DeSoto	3	Liberal	22	Shawnee	8
Dodge City	29	*Lindsborg	20	South Hutchinson	4
Effingham	11	Louisburg	8	*Spring Hill	9
*El Dorado	12	Lyndon	4	*St. John	9
Ellis	5	Maize	6	Tonganoxie	6
Emporia	19	Manhattan	28	Topeka	18
Fairway	20	Mankato	24	Troy	8
*Forbes Field ANG	8	Marquette	10	Ulysses	26
Formoso	20	*Marysville	25	Valley Center	11
Ft. Riley	18	McConnell AFB	11	Valley Falls	10
Ft. Scott	10	*McPherson	27	WaKeeney	16
Fowler	1	Meade	2	Wamego	17
Garden City	27	Merriam	20	Waterville	28
Gardner	2	Mission	3	Westwood	17
Garnett	16	Mission Hills	13	Westwood Hills	8
Goodland	26	*Mulvane	14	Wichita	19
Great Bend	22	Newton	29	Windom	12
Halstead	27	Oberlin	19	Winfield	24
Harper	9	*Olathe	22	* Growth Award Recipients	

*For more information about Kansas Forest Service programs,
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