



Planning Beneficial WOODLOT MANAGEMENT Practices

YOU OWN A PRIVATE WOODLOT AND YOU WOULD LIKE TO MANAGE IT WHILE BENEFITING FROM SUBSIDIES AND TAX BENEFITS?

Follow these steps :

STEP 1 Consult a Qualified Forester

Professional foresters provide technical assistance to private woodlot owners to assess the state of their forest and to propose sustainable forest management strategies. Woodlot advisors work in private practices, others for group venture organizations. For a list of the certified forest consultants in the Outaouais region, contact “*L’Agence des forêts privées de l’Outaouais*”, email: afpo@afpo.ca, or by phone: **819 827-0338**. The information is also available on our web site: www.afpo.ca. To learn more about the various professionals and their respective roles in the forest sector, refer to our “Government and Forestry Agencies” section.



STEP 2 Enhance Your Woodlot by Planning its Development

Planning takes the form of a forest management plan. The information contained in this plan will provide you with knowledge of your woodlot to optimize its potential. The management plan will allow you to make sustainable development decisions according to your interests and your objectives.

» FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN CONTENT :

- The owner's objectives
- A property scale map, to identify :
 - Forest stand typing
 - Environmentally sensitive sites
- Silviculture suggestions according to your woodlot potential and your objectives.



STEP 3 Register for Forest Producer Status

Once the forest management plan is completed, you can register to obtain the recognized forest producer status delivered by the Quebec government. The status will give you access to tax incentives and financial assistance programs to carry out forestry activities (refer to our “*Forest Management Support Programs*” section). The professional forester who designs your forest management plan can guide you through this registration process. You can also contact l'Agence des forêts privées de l'Outaouais, the mandated registrar for the woodlot owner status, at **819 827-0338**, or go directly to www.mffp.gouv.qc.ca.

» REQUIREMENTS TO BECOME A RECOGNIZED FOREST PRODUCER

- A valid forest management plan by a professional forester
- Own **at least 4 hectares** (9,9 acres) of property devoted to forest activities.
- Register for forest producer status and obtain a forest producer certificate (www.mffp.gouv.qc.ca) which indicates lots registered.

PROMOTING TREE PLANTING AND BEST SILVICULTURE PRACTICES

Afforestation / Reforestation

L'Agence des Forêts Privées de l'Outaouais plants hundreds of thousands of trees annually in order to regenerate woodlots after windthrows, and recuperation of diseased and insect infested tree stands. Seedlings are supplied by the government of Quebec and subsidies are available to do site preparation, planting and maintenance until free to grow. In step with climate change, our region has an ambitious reforestation plan of fallow land and abandoned farmland in order to sequester carbon. These programs are funded by a Federal-Provincial agreement, Tree Canada Foundation and the Quebec government.

Harvesting mature and diseased trees, and other forest tending methods will allow for :

- Continuous improvement of the **quality** and **health** of your woodlot thus increasing its value
- Attainment of **sustainability** and **productivity** of your woodlot
- Proper spacing and light enhancement to promote the growth of young trees
- Tending and rejuvenation of your woodlot to increase its **Carbon Sequestration** capacity

The forest is a natural resource which must be protected and optimized through proper tending. In addition to providing majestic landscapes, it provides habitat for wildlife and plants. It creates wealth and contributes to the regional economy, generating revenue for woodlot owners, but also for forestry workers, entrepreneurs, truckers, wood-processing plants workers, furniture manufacturers, distributors and retailers, all this through the use of a renewable material.

Furthermore, an increased use of wood when building in Quebec is a significant contribution towards the fight against greenhouse effects. Wood is a renewable resource sustainably managed and, at its end-of-life cycle, it could be re-used for new buildings or recycled into by-products (wood fibreboard, mulch or bioenergy production).

GOVERNMENT AND FORESTRY AGENCIES

ORGANISMS	SERVICES PROVIDED
<p>Minister of Forests, Wildlife and Parks (MFFP) www.mffp.gouv.qc.ca</p>	<p>Provincial ministry administrator of the forest, wildlife resources and the Quebec parks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributes financially to the development and to the protection of the private woodlots through various assistance programs.
<p>Agence des Forêts Privées de l'Outaouais www.afpo.ca</p>	<p>Non-profit organization dedicated to the development of private woodlots</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development, implementation and monitoring of sustainable private forest protection and enhancement plans for the region. • Financial and technical support to improve private woodlots.
<p>Professional Foresters and/or Licensed Forestry Advisers</p>	<p>Expert consultants in private woodlot management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional forest management services.
<p>Forestry Group Ventures or Forestry Cooperatives.</p>	<p>Common resources management organizations specialized in private forest management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical support and silviculture work for woodlot owners.
<p>Private Contractors</p>	<p>Private harvest operations entrepreneurs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Silvicultural work and forestry roadwork, working with or without professional foresters or licensed forestry advisers.
<p>Alliance des propriétaires forestiers Laurentides-Outaouais www.apflo.ca Office des producteurs de bois de la Gatineau www.opbg.ca Pontiac Forest Products Producers Board www.opdbp.org</p>	<p>Non-profit organizations in wood marketing which represent woodlot owners for maintaining decent sales conditions with buyers, and promote woodlot owners economic and social interests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiate collectively the sales conditions for defined primary forest products.

FOREST MANAGEMENT SUPPORT PROGRAMS

PROGRAMS	SPONSOR	DELIVERY AGENT	BENEFICIARIES	PROGRAM GOALS
Managed Private Woodlots Direct Assistance Program	MFFP* and/or Agency**	Professional foresters or Licensed Forestry Advisers	Woodlot owners and wood producers	Enhancement of private woodlots by promoting beneficial silviculture practices.
Property Tax Refund Program (municipal taxes)	MFFP* Revenu Quebec	Professional foresters or Licensed Forestry Advisers	Woodlot owners and wood producers	Enhancement of private woodlots by promoting beneficial silviculture practices.
Forest Credit Program	Quebec Farm Credit Corporation	La Financière agricole du Québec	Woodlot owners and wood producers	Financial support and loan guarantees to forest producers for the acquisition of woodlots and machinery.
“Faune-Forêt” Wildlife Enhancement Program	Fondation de la faune du Québec	Licensed Forestry Advisers/ Wildlife Habitat Conservation Groups	Woodlot owners and wood producers	Support woodlot owners to protect and enhance wildlife habitat and integrate beneficial silvicultural practices to preserve biodiversity.
Income Averaging Income Tax Regulation	Revenu Quebec	Professional foresters and professional accounting services	Woodlot owners and wood producers	Harvest income averaging for certified forestry commercial activities over a period not to exceed seven years.
Fuel Tax Refund	Revenu Quebec	Personal accounting services	Woodlot owners and wood producers	Refund of tax paid on fuel (gasoline or fuel oil) used to operate motor vehicles used for farming or forest operations. Equipment registered for use exclusively on private roads.
Forest Operation Tax Exemption	Revenu Quebec	Personal accounting services	Woodlot owners and wood producers	Provincial and federal (10%) tax exemption on net income resulting from logging operations up to 65 000\$.

* MFFP: Ministry of Forests, Wildlife and Parks

**Agency: Agence des forêts privées de l’Outaouais

FOREST MANAGEMENT SUPPORT PROGRAMS

» MANAGED WOODLOT DIRECT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Managed by the regional forest agencies, this direct financial assistance program offers incentives to protect and enhance woodlots operated under beneficial practices. Financial assistance is offered to licenced forestry advisors and status recognized woodlot owners for conducting forest operations on private land. To obtain financial support, the forest producer must use the services of a professional forester or licensed forestry adviser.

Activities financed:

- Tree planting
- Technical assistance for silvicultural activities
- Silviculture operations and harvesting

Contact L'Agence des forêts privées de l'Outaouais : **819 827-0338** (www.afpo.ca) or a professional forester/licensed forestry adviser.

» PROPERTY TAX REFUND PROGRAM

It is a refundable tax credit for status registered forest owners who invest into specified /eligible silviculture operations and roadwork, which work has been attested by the report of a professional forester and whose value is equal or superior to the amount of the property tax (municipal tax). This program allows to recover up to **85% of the municipal and school taxes** paid for the woodlot.

For more information, visit the Quebec Ministry of Forests, Wildlife and Parks website (www.mffp.gouv.qc.ca) or contact a professional forester licensed forestry adviser.

» « FAUNA-FOREST » WILDLIFE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

Managed by the “*Fondation de la faune du Québec*”, this program provides information, technical support and financial assistance to private woodlot owners on wildlife resource management, conservation and natural reserve options of your woodlot property. To benefit from this program, the owner must retain the services of an eligible organization.

Examples of subsidized activities:

- Incorporating a wildlife component to the forest development plan
- Providing winter habitats for the deer in eligible areas
- Voluntary preservation of wetlands or other sensitive natural habitats
- Dedication of natural reserves
- Improvement or restoration of wildlife habitat

Visit the “*Fondation de la faune du Québec*” website: www.fondationdelafaune.qc.ca

» FOREST CREDIT PROGRAM

This program jointly developed with the **Minister of Forests, Wildlife and Parks** and administered by “*La Financière Agricole du Québec*” (Quebec Farm Credit Corporation) aims to provide financial support to forest owners when woodlots are acquired to consolidate a working woodlot larger than 60 hectares. A woodlot management plan, and woodlot owner status are conditions to eligibility.

Examples of financed activities:

- Guidance in the elaboration of a business plan and financial analysis of your project
- Purchase plan for private woodlot / forestry companies
- Machinery / forest equipment acquisition
- Maple production equipment
- Buildings construction / renovation
- Silvicultural and roadwork activities.

Contact “*La Financière agricole du Québec*” at **1 800 749-3646** or visit their website: (www.fadq.qc.ca)



» OTHER TAX PROGRAMS

The **Woodlot Income Averaging Measure** offers the possibility to apply income averaging to a portion of harvest net income from certified forestry commercial activities over a period not to exceed seven years.

The **Forest Operations Tax Exemption** is a Provincial and Federal (10%) tax exemption on net income resulting from harvest operations for net wood sales up to \$65 000.

The **Fuel Tax Refund** provides a refund for tax paid on gasoline or fuel oil used to operate motor vehicles used for farming or forest operations when the machinery is registered for use exclusively on private roads.

<http://www.revenuquebec.ca/fr/entreprises/obligationsparticulieres/operationsforestieres/default.aspx>

Financing by : Programme d'Aménagement Durable des Forêts.

