



# Florida Forestry Facts

(10/2017)

- Roughly half of Florida is forested, primarily in North & Central FL. **(17.1 million acres total)**
- About one-third of that is in long leaf and slash pines.
- Since the 1930s, nearly 6 million acres of forestland have been converted to other uses, primarily due to the state's continuing urbanization.
- Forest Ownership:
  - 64% Private
  - 36% Public (local, state and federal governments)
- **\$25 billion economic impact from forest industry**
- **Addition \$500 million impact from recreational forest activities**
- **124,000 jobs**
- **1800 businesses**
- **78 primary wood-using mills**
- Over **450 million tree seedlings planted** 2010-2015
- **Wood pulp** is the top forest product export
- In addition to wood products, Florida's working forests provide **improved water quality** and **increased water quantity**; **natural air filtration**; and **wildlife habitat**, as well as **recreational opportunities**. Estimated value: \$24.7 billion annually
- **More than 5000 forest products touch every part of life:**
  - Housing, furniture, lumber, etc.
  - Pharmaceuticals (aspirin, prescription drugs)
  - Food (ice cream, cereal bars, bread, salad dressing, chewing gum)
  - Fashion (cosmetics, rayon, toothpaste and toothbrushes, shampoo, laundry detergent, perfume)
  - Fun (skateboards, football helmets, books, paper, fireworks, sports drinks, crayons, tv and cell phone screens)

*Information courtesy of Florida Forest Service, University of Florida/IFAS and School of Forest Resources and Conservation*