



## Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA) University of New Hampshire, FY 2008

**Sustaining Forests:** As a result of individual and workshop-based activity, Extension foresters referred more than 440 landowners owning 36,000 acres to licensed foresters who wrote forest stewardship plans covering more than 8665 acres. This represents \$129,975 in direct economic activity as well as improved management and timber harvesting. More than 25% of New Hampshire's private forestland is managed according to an integrated forest stewardship plan.



New Hampshire licensed foresters attending Extension workshops manage an estimated 650,000 acres of private forestland resulting in improved practices, and 80% of workshop attendees reported that participation had a positive influence on their land management practices.

Extension staff worked jointly to help people affected by the tornado of July 24, 2008. A web page was set up almost immediately, easily accessed at [www.nhwoods.org](http://www.nhwoods.org), and updated several times a day. County Foresters went door-to-door, answering questions about debris cleanup, and specialists communicated with sawmills and loggers to find out how markets might be affected. Five meetings were organized to bring community members together in one place, disseminate information, and answer questions. More than 213 people attended. Communication with affected landowners is ongoing.

**Volunteers Extending Our Reach:** More than 500 Coverts and Community Tree Stewards are actively involved in conservation in their communities. Many are heavily involved in helping to minimize the effect of fragmentation and sprawl through open space initiatives. Towns with these active conservation volunteers are three times more likely to have passed conservation funding measures than towns lacking these volunteers.

**Minimizing Fragmentation and Sprawl through Community Conservation Planning and Permanent Land Protection:** Seven communities completed natural resource inventories and wetland evaluations as a prelude to conservation planning and identifying important lands to permanently protect. More than 8050 acres of forest and field have been permanently protected as a result of assistance provided by the UNH Cooperative Extension, using RREA program funds.



*"The Coverts Project was a great influence on me and it certainly gave me the tools I needed to become a better steward. In terms of awareness and appreciation, the world would be a better place if a Coverts type session could be incorporated into our high school curriculum."*

Coverts Cooperator '08

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