

## Benefits of Florida's Forests

- Forestlands enhance Florida's economic stability by attracting businesses and tourists. Over half of Florida visitors engage in some type of nature-based activity during their visits
- Forest trees can be used to make over 5,000 consumer items. On the average, each American will use approximately 3 pounds of wood products per day
- Private forests can add up to 15% to landowners' residential property value
- Forest management can provide immediate income return and/or long-term investment
- Sound land management can help reduce Hurricane damage to homes
- Forests serve the community by continuing Florida's rural heritage, supporting research and education, providing aesthetic beauty, and contributing to community pride
- Forest industry provides over 133,000 manufacturing jobs provided to workers
- Hunting leasing opportunity is available to private landowners, providing recreation opportunity
- Forests provide the environment with: Surface and groundwater storage, generation and preservation of soils, wildlife habitat safety, reduced soil erosion, clean air and reduced air pollution, purification of water, wildlife and plant diversity, modified local climate, and reduced cooling and heating costs
- Florida's forests provide a water filtering system that affects the drinking water of 90 percent of the state's population
- Forests shelter more than 100 species of animals
- For many landowners, their forestland is:
  - A family legacy
  - A scenic view
  - A future home site
  - A haven for sport or recreation
  - A habitat for wildlife, water and protection
  - A one-time cash crop
  - An ongoing economic resource

