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College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

FORESTRY

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In this Issue

- 2026 Vermont Maple Summary
- Welcome Jess - Summer 2026 Forestry Intern
- Forest Pest Field Workshops: Beech Leaf Disease and Lingering Ash
- Did you know every Vermonter lives within a half-hour of a state park?
- Help Complete Vermont's Protected Lands Map
- Funding Available for Wood Heating
- Featured Upcoming Events (July-August)

News Updates

2026 Vermont Maple Summary

The USDA just released the National Agricultural Statistics Service on maple syrup production across the nation and here in Vermont. Below are the highlights

Total Production	3.091 million gallons syrup
Number of Taps	8.2 million
Yield per Tap	0.377 gallons syrup
2025 Revenue	$102 million

- Vermont remains #1 in the U.S. and accounts for over 50% of national maple syrup production
- Consistent production across years, 2024 (3.1018), 2025 (3.009), 2026 (3.091) million gallons
- Growth in the number of taps from 2003 (2.1) to 2026 (8.2) million taps
- Improved yield per tap and average retail price per gallon
- Favorable, but variable weather conditions "fast and furious with intense but uneven sap runs"

Read the Full Report

Explore Maple Production Resources

Welcome Jess - Summer 2026 Forestry Intern



Jess is a rising junior studying forestry in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources. Originally from northern New Jersey, Jess appreciates any chance to get outside! They are excited to be taking on the role of UVM Extension Forestry's Climate Resilience Intern where they will be helping with field data collection and entry along with contributing to the existing Stories of Forest Climate Adaptation StoryMap.

They'll be working to create a narrative which connects landowners and their forests to forestry goals and practices associated with adapting to a changing climate. Jess can't wait to get out in the field and get the opportunity to talk with foresters and landowners from all around Vermont!

Explore the Stories of Forest Climate Adaptation

Forest Pest Field Workshops

Tree ID and Beech Leaf Disease Workshop

Thursday July 9 | 10:00 - 12:00 PM

UVM Research Forest, Jericho, VT

Join Dr. Jess Wikle, UVM Research Forests Manager, and Ginger Nickerson for a guided field walk in UVM's Research Forest.

We will learn to identify common Vermont trees and explore the introduced pests that affect them.

Along the way, we will see active infestations of beech leaf disease and emerald ash borer.

Space is limited and registration is required.



Learn More and Register

Help Find Lingering Ash for EAB Resistance

Friday July 24 | 10:00 - 12:00 PM

Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge, Swanton, VT

The Ecological Research Institute, in collaboration with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Forest Pest First Detectors, will present a free field-based workshop on the Monitoring and Managing Ash (MaMA) protocols to look for and report "lingering ash."

You'll learn how to collect the needed data and how to incorporate lingering ash detection into ash management.

There will be an optional visit to a black ash site in the islands after the workshop.

Space is limited and registration is required. Questions? Send email to: outreach@MonitoringAsh.org.



Learn More and Register

Did you know every Vermonter lives within a half-hour of a state park?



Hear from Vermont's Forests, Parks, and Recreation on *Across the Fence* about opportunities to explore all 55 Vermont State Parks this summer, along with several updates to enhance your visit. The *Island Runner* ferry from Kill Kare State Park to Burton Island resumes service on July 1 following mechanical upgrades, Lake Carmi State Park is drawing attention for its clearer, more pristine water after successful conservation treatment, and ongoing improvements at Mount Philo State Park are making summit views and shelter areas more accessible and easier to navigate.

Learn more and plan your visit at http://vtstateparks.com/

Resource Updates

Help Complete Vermont's Protected Lands Map

The Vermont Protected Lands Database (VPLD) is a statewide resource that tracks conserved lands, but it is still missing important local data.

To help fill these gaps, the Agency of Natural Resources has launched an easy-to-use online mapping tool that allows towns and conservation organizations to review and update records.

Users can add missing conserved parcels or flag incorrect boundaries and information. Trainings and support are available to help participants get started and ensure their data is accurate. Your contributions will help create a more complete and reliable picture of Vermont's conserved lands.

Explore Vermont Protected Lands Database Update

Funding Available for Wood Heating



Vermont schools and municipalities can now apply for funding through the Advanced Wood Heating Assistance Program, which offers up to $50,000 to support installation or upgrades to modern, efficient wood heating systems.

Funded by a USDA Forest Service grant, the program helps reduce reliance on fossil fuels while supporting Vermont's forest economy and keeping more energy dollars local. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis through the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation.

Read the Article

Learn More and Enroll

Featured Upcoming Events

See our Featured Upcoming Events

Forest Birds and Woodland Stewardship Tour

Friday July 17 |10:00 - 3:00 PM

Greensboro, VT

Join Vermont Woodlands Association and Audubon Vermont for a woods walk at Black Hills Timber, LLC, a 1,927-acre Tree Farm with over 60 years of active forest stewardship creating diverse habitat and a productive working forest. Hosted by Rich "Carbo" Carbonetti, the tour includes about 3.5 miles of trails (with shorter options), rich forest history, and is free with CEUs pending approval.

Learn More and Register (Web)

2026 Forest & Field Festival

Saturday July 18 | 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Smokey House Center, 426 Danby Mountain Rd, Danby, VT 05739
Join Smokey House Center's 1st annual Forest & Field Festival a free, family-friendly celebration of Vermont's farms, forests, food, and community partnerships. Enjoy live music, hands-on activities, exhibits, and local food while learning about the innovative work happening across their 5,000-acre campus.

Learn More and Register (Web)

Woody Plant Identification Field Day

Tuesday July 28 | 2:00 - 4:00 PM

2200 Three Mile Bridge Rd, Middlebury VT

Join Vermont Woodlands Association, Vermont FPR, Ducks Unlimited, and the Vermont Association of Wetland Science for a field day at Ducks Unlimited's 3 Mile Bridge property in East Middlebury. Learn about land use history, tree and shrub identification, wetland management, and floodplain considerations during a guided walk through the site. Please dress for uneven and potentially soggy conditions.

Learn More and Register (Web)

Vermont Coverts Cooperator Trainings
Weekend August 28 - 30 | Castleton, VT

Hosted by Vermont Coverts, a peer-to-peer community of landowners, professionals and others learning from and supporting each other to enhance wildlife habitats through sound forest management, Coverts Cooperators are forest landowners and/or community members who are interested in having an impact on their own land and in their communities. This program connects you with resource professionals, landowners and others while learning how you can improve your woodlands.

Learn More and Register (Web)

The Future of Forest Stewardship Workshop & National Guild Gathering
Tuesday September 15 | Freeport Maine

The Forest Stewards Guild will mark its 30th anniversary this September with a three-day gathering in Freeport, Maine focused on the future of forest stewardship. The event will bring together practitioners, scientists, landowners, and community leaders for field tours, workshops, and discussions on a variety of topics. Early bird registration is available through June 15 for those interested in attending.

Learn More and Register (Web)

We have a growing number of resources available for landowners, foresters, conservation groups and other folks interested in learning about forests and how to steward them. Visit our website to check them out.

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