

THE VAST IMPACTS OF SOUTH CAROLINA'S FOREST LANDOWNERS

The environmental and economic benefits of a managed forest begin with the commitment, investment, and hard work of the landowner. South Carolina's forest landowners are the unsung heroes who play a critical role in the state's economy, communities, and environment.

PLANT, GROW, HARVEST, RE-PLANT

11M

Acres of private forest

Every year, South Carolina grows nearly 40% more wood than harvested

13M acres including state forests

SUSTAINABLY MANAGED

96%

Landowners use sustainable practices

South Carolina landowners are responsible stewards of their forest, following state guidelines across all categories including streams, wetlands, reforestation, and more

GROWING OXYGEN FOR

110M

Residents annually

Thank a forest landowner for the air you breathe. Private forests produce enough oxygen for 110M residents to breathe every year (130M including state forests)

CLEANING THE AIR

2M

Cars' emissions removed

Private forest landowners are sequestering the emissions of 2M cars annually driven on South Carolina's roads

ECONOMIC POWERHOUSE

\$21B

Impact on the South Carolina economy

COMPARE

Forestry generates almost as much as the tourism industry (\$21B vs. \$23B).

Wood markets ensure forest landowners have the income needed to manage their forests, deliver environmental health benefits, and create an economic boost for South Carolina. It all starts with the landowner planting trees.

JOB CREATION

98,000

South Carolina jobs supported by forestry

COMPARE

Forestry also supports 5x more jobs than the aerospace industry (98,305 vs. 19,000)

PAYCHECKS FOR FAMILIES

\$2.6B

Salaries and wages

COMPARE

Paychecks in the pockets of families employed by forestry could buy 14,000 homes annually

FUNDING SCHOOLS & COMMUNITIES

\$232M

State taxes

COMPARE

Taxes paid to the state by forestry jobs could pay the annual salaries of 5,000 teachers in the South Carolina school system

FORESTS TO FAUCETS

48%

Of South Carolina's water supply flows from private forests (51% including state forests)

100 MATURE TREES INTERCEPT

250,000

Gallons of rainfall per year

Forests filter rainfall, removing sediments and pollutants before slowly releasing water into streams and rivers that feed into the watersheds that provide public drinking water

SAFE DRINKING WATER

1M

South Carolina residents get more than half their public drinking water from private & state forests

Whether you care about drinking water, clean air or economic benefits, we must understand the role of the landowner and the importance of harvesting timber to provide income for the caretakers of the forests.

Economic Impact Data was derived from 2017 IMPLAN data. Find more information about this factsheet or forestry in South Carolina, state.sc.us/forest/.

