

Emergency Services Report

Aviation

At present, the Arkansas Department of Agriculture's aviation unit operates 12 fixed-wing aircraft to support Forestry Division operations. The base of aviation operations is located at the Malvern Municipal Airport. Ten of the aircraft are single-engine airplanes, used primarily for fire detection.

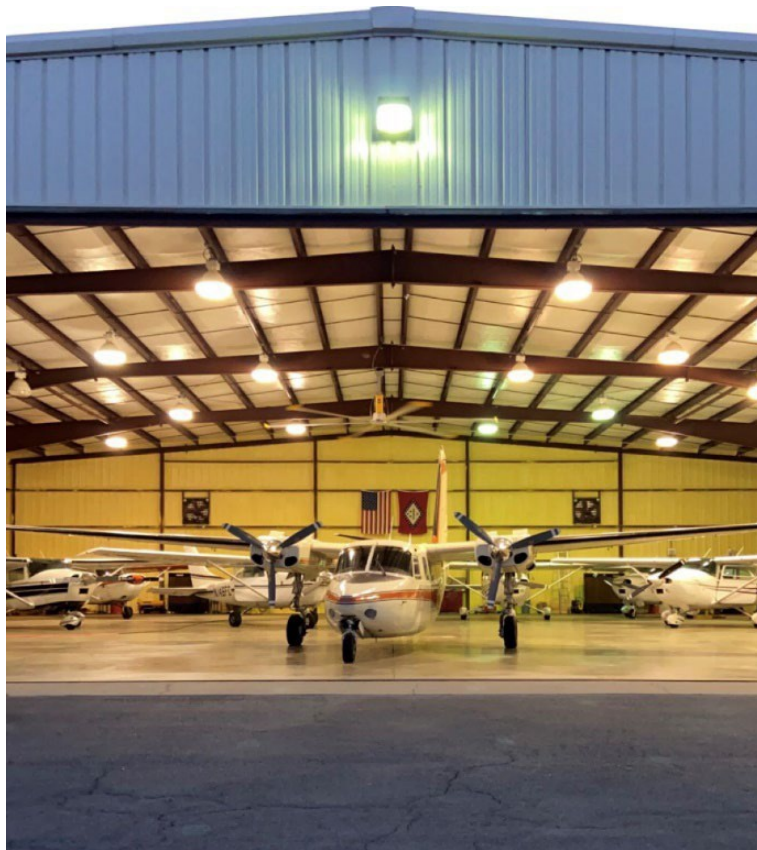
Single-engine planes also provide essential forestry functions like forest health monitoring, storm damage assessment and Best Management Practices (BMP) evaluations. Two twin-engine aircraft are used primarily for an Air Attack platform that flies with the Single Engine Air Tankers (SEATS) during wildfire suppression operations. Extra help pilots are utilized to fly wildfire detection during periods of high fire danger. All pilots possess a minimum of a Commercial Pilot Certificate with Instrument privileges and 500 hours of flight time.

Quarterly Summary

Wildfire Detection: No detection flights were flown this quarter.

Air Attack: One air attack flight was flown for a total of 4.0 hrs.

Forest Health: One forest health flight was flown for a total of 3.2 hrs.



Forestry Division Aviation Hangar – Malvern, AR

Central Dispatch



The Arkansas Department of Agriculture's Forestry Division Dispatch Center is a 24/7 statewide dispatch center, located in Malvern, AR, which employs seven full-time dispatchers, and one Dispatch Supervisor. These dispatchers use a computer aided program to dispatch crews to wildfires and other emergencies. During any normal day-to-day activity, the dispatch center maintains radio and phone contact with crews dispatched to wildfires, emergency situations, and county assist calls. The Center also dispatches air resources for detection of wildfires and air resources for wildfire suppression.

The dispatch center has three wall mounted monitors that can be used to monitor Spidertracks, weather radar, National Interagency Fire Center and Trello.

Quarterly Summary:

2026 Month	Number of Fires	10 Year Average Fires	Total Acres Burned	10 Year Average Acres	Number of 100+ Acre Fires	Single Engine Air Tankers (SEATs) Drops
April	65	89	1,978	1,997	3	0
May	28	17	220	135	0	0
June	2	23	2	262	0	0
Quarterly Total	95	43	2,200	798	3	0

Threatened and Lost Information:

2026 Month	Homes Threatened/Value	Homes Lost/Value	Outbuildings Threatened/Value	Outbuildings Lost/Value
April	15 / 1,916,680	1 / 0	15 / 257,503	3 / 7,500
May	6 / 200,000	0 / 0	5 / 60,000	0 / 0
June	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0	0 / 0
Quarterly Total	21 / 2,116,680	1 / 0	20 / 317,503	3 / 7,500

In April, ADA - Forestry Division had 3 fires over 100 acres.

In May, ADA - Forestry Division had 0 fires over 100 acres

In June, ADA - Forestry Division had 0 fires over 100 acres.

Search and Rescue Assistance:

Did not assist with any Search and Rescues

Storm Damage Assistance:

Did not assist with any Storm Damage.

Communications

The Forestry Division communications team is responsible for maintaining 53 Very High Frequency (VHF) Repeaters, 800 VHF Radios, and 142 Arkansas Wireless Information Network (AWIN) Radios to Federal Communications Commission (FCC) specifications & operational standards to provide reliable communications to Forestry Division firefighters. Technicians provide communication support throughout the state by working with field personnel to provide services for radio, security, internet, and phones in addition to supporting the critical communications system.

Quarterly Summary:

During the second quarter, the Communications Team continued statewide efforts to improve communications infrastructure, support field operations, and evaluate emerging technologies for future deployment. A significant portion of the quarter was dedicated to development of the Forestry Division command trailer, including equipment installation, communications planning, mock deployments, and preparation for Fireboat School operations. Staff also worked closely with agency leadership and external partners to prepare communications plans, training activities, and future infrastructure projects.

Radio system maintenance, installation, and upgrades continued across multiple districts. Communications personnel installed radios in side-by-side units, dozers, transports, and other fleet equipment while repairing existing mobile and portable radio systems. Additional work included replacing antenna systems, mobile radio displays, batteries, charger equipment, and emergency lighting systems on forestry equipment. Technicians also added AWIN channels to field radios, configured and deployed new Bendix King radios for testing, developed new Tait 9900 radio profiles, and continued preparations for possible future digital radio operations. Efforts also continued to consolidate split communications districts by expanding and coordinating frequency resources in Districts 1, 3, and 6 to improve operational flexibility and interoperability.

Significant progress was made on communications technology research and testing. Extensive GPS tracking evaluations were conducted with mesh networking technologies. Field testing demonstrated reliable GPS and data communications exceeding two miles in the mountainous terrain of Van Buren County and more than four miles within dense pine plantations in Ouachita County. Additional mesh network testing continued beyond fifteen miles before testing was concluded, demonstrating promising capabilities for future situational awareness and personnel tracking applications in areas with limited infrastructure.

Communications infrastructure maintenance remained a major focus throughout the quarter. Staff repaired repeater systems in multiple locations, tuned new repeater equipment, and performed inspections and preventative maintenance at several communications sites including Bismarck, Peterman, Mountain Top, Air 3, and Magazine. Grounding systems were improved at Bismarck, site power systems were inspected, and planning efforts continued for a proposed communications tower project at Mount Magazine. Additional work included repairs to base stations, microwave equipment replacements, network interference mitigation, and improvements to microwave link stability across multiple network paths. A new microwave network was also designed and implemented for the Malvern Complex.

Dispatch and network support activities included camera system maintenance, replacement of failed equipment, repair of the dispatch camera monitoring workstation, troubleshooting internet and telephone issues, and ongoing maintenance of communications infrastructure at Baucum Nursery and other facilities. Staff also repaired cellular and network equipment as

needed to maintain operational readiness.

Weather station maintenance and environmental monitoring support continued throughout the quarter. Communications personnel repaired wind sensors, performed maintenance at multiple weather station sites across the state, updated the statewide weather station database, and coordinated replacement of aging sensors and equipment to ensure continued reliability of weather monitoring resources.

Training, planning, and coordination activities included Fireboat School preparation, GPS installation training, District 3 telecommunications walkthroughs, planning meetings regarding future office facilities, and coordination efforts related to communications licensing and infrastructure improvements. Administrative support included inventory management, equipment procurement coordination, and project planning for future communications initiatives.

Overall, the Communications Team continued to enhance statewide communications capabilities through proactive maintenance, infrastructure modernization, equipment upgrades, technology testing, and operational support. These efforts improved system reliability, expanded communications capabilities, and positioned the Forestry Division for future advancements in radio, GPS tracking, and digital communications technologies.

Firewise

Firewise staff work with district personnel, fire departments, civic organizations, and community volunteers to make communities safer from the threat of wildfire through mitigation projects and community education initiatives.

Arkansas has 69 active Firewise USA communities. Recognized communities conduct education and mitigation activities, as well as display national program recognition signs at their city limits.

Quarterly Summary:

In April, Jasper requested Firewise's presence at their Job/Information Fair. The event allowed staff to interact with graduating seniors to discuss potential careers within agriculture and forestry, as well as spread program information to local residents. The Firewise Public Information Specialist also visited an emerging program participant. Lake View received the initial program training in the last quarter, but asked for more hands-on assistance as they work to establish their place in the program. Department personnel have stressed how particularly at-risk their community is and have been incredibly grateful for the information and assistance provided to them thus far.

May closed with the Firewise Coordinator instructing a fire scenario at the Arkansas Fire Boat School. The exercise allowed students to work through a wildfire scenario and then have their performance assessed by forestry personnel. Participants arrived on scene, established command, sized up the fire and triaged the structure as if it were a real-life wildfire event. Each student then had to remove fuels from around the structure, check for residents, prepare the home to best withstand wildfire threats so they could then move on and secure other structures. After action reviews were completed to discuss what approaches worked best and what, if any, could have been improved upon.

Each June, Firewise joins Rural Fire to host an informational booth at the Arkansas Fire Convention. The event allows Firewise staff to interact with many program participants as well as potentially interested fire departments. This year's convention fostered outreach with

hundreds of fire department personnel from throughout the state.

New Smokey Bear costumes were ordered this quarter and delivered to all seven districts. Staff also attended a district forester's meeting held at Greenbrier to supply each district with a new Firewise tablecloth and updated expandable displays that can be utilized by communities in their district when conducting program education outreach.

Additional program efforts across the state are as follows:

7 Exhibits/County Fairs/Festivals

63 Fire Chief visits

17 Literature distributions to fire departments

51 Fire prevention presentations delivered at schools/civic groups



Firewise/Rural Fire outreach booth at the 2026 Arkansas Fire Convention.

Rural Fire Protection

Rural Fire Protection (RFP) assists fire departments (FD's) with organization, training, and equipment. RFP provides interest-free loans, secures firefighting and emergency service equipment from the federal government, and administers a federal grant to assist approximately 925 fire departments. The RFP shop provides maintenance to property destined for FD's and repairs for Department of Agriculture equipment as well.

Quarterly Summary:

RFP placed eighteen pieces of equipment with fire departments through the federal excess property programs (FEPP/FFP). Those included three truck tractors, two firefighting tank trailers, one cargo trailer and twelve generator sets. The total federal acquisition cost is \$314,569.60.

In May 2026, there was \$18,245.17 in new equipment on hand for reimbursement by fire departments. The mechanic shop completed maintenance on one vehicle destined to FDs, fourteen pieces of equipment for Forestry, and eight vehicles for Forestry (total labor savings of \$121,485.00).

RFP financed two interest-free loans via the Rural Fire Revolving Fund totaling \$29,272.55:

- Chidester (D4, Ouachita Co.) - \$15,000.00 – 2005 Pierce Saber Pumper
- Dierks (D2, Howard Co.) - \$14,272.55 – Repairs on AWD Freightliner

The 2026 Rural Fire Show will be held on Saturday, October 3, 2026, at the Conway Expo Center. RFP distributed 65 Wildfire Suppression Kits to FD's with a total value of \$315,870.26.

Forest Management Report

Forest Stewardship Program

The goal of the Forest Stewardship Program, as delivered by the Arkansas Department of Agriculture (Department), is to function as the gateway for private landowners to access professional assistance managing their forest land to fulfill their management objectives. A Forest Stewardship Plan is the roadmap that guides the landowner to achieving their desired outcomes. Forest Stewardship Management Plans are developed as a collaboration between the landowner and private forestry consultants or Forestry Division foresters with the purpose of ensuring that landowners are realizing sustainable benefits from their forest through tree planting, prescribed burning, control of insects and diseases, and forest stand improvement.



New management plans written in the calendar year:

Time Period	# of Stewardship	Acres	# of Non-Stewardship	Acres
January – March 2026	11	2,236	99	9,896
April – June 2026	14	2,014	134	12,005
Total	25	4,250	233	21,901

Recent Activities

- New Forest Stewardship Management Plan (FSMP) applications
 - 11 applications for 1,839 acres
- Consultant MOA's & invoices
 - 49 MOAs approved for new FSMP's
 - 32 invoices paid \$24,605
 - All grant funding is obligated for FSMP's
- Hot Springs State Forest (HSSF)
 - Logging operations completed – June 17th (Timber sale 110-acre Demonstration Area)
 - Boundary line flagging (10 miles)
 - Hiking Trail Invasive Species Survey (250 plots)
- FSP Projects and Tasks
 - Arkansas FY26 Stewardship Monitoring
 - 28 Tracts
 - 4 of 28 tracts surveyed
 - FSP training for new County Foresters
 - Three FSP name signs
 - Stewardship FY26 grant application documents submitted
- Good Neighbor Authority (GNA)
 - Financial and performance report
 - Strip line Mountain Pine Tract
- Meetings
 - GNA Meeting with the USFS, Hot Springs



70 BA HSSF Demo Area

- o Forest Legacy Meeting and Field Tour, Hot Springs
- District 2 County Forester support
 - o 2 Prescribed fires
 - o 3 EQIP management plans
 - o 4 CRP practice plans
 - o 1 RCPP practice plan



Forest Legacy Field Tour

Forest Inventory and Analysis

The Department's Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program, in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service Southern Research Station, is responsible for collecting scientific data from permanently established plots located all over the state. These plots each represent about 6,000 acres and are located on a three-mile by three-mile grid. Most of these plots were established in the 1950's and are located on public and private lands. The data collected by the FIA survey crew provides an up-to-date, accurate annual estimate of the volume, sustainability, and health of forest resources in Arkansas.

Forest Survey Team

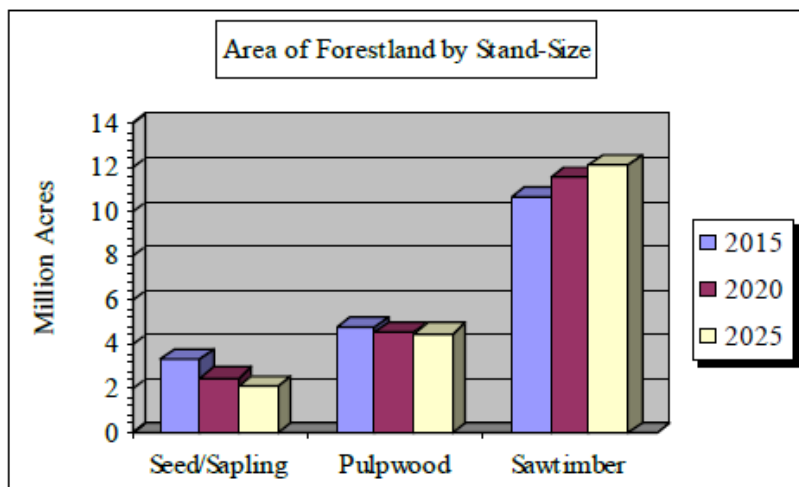
The Forestry Division's FIA team consists of one Forest Inventory Coordinator and six Forest Inventory Specialists located throughout the state. FIA personnel measured 132 plots and maintained a 97% quality assurance score.



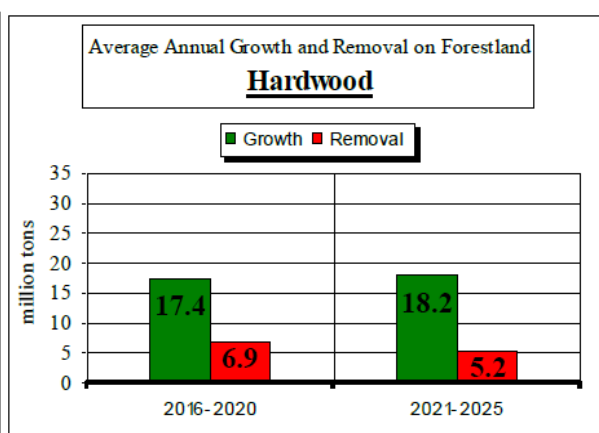
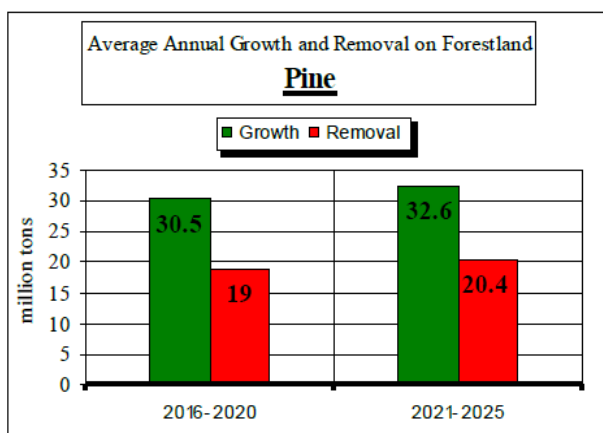
Luke Porter (left) in Sharp County and Owen Rowland (right) in Ouachita County collecting FIA plot data.

2025 Forest Survey

The 2025 forest survey is now available for public use. FIA data shows that Arkansas's forest covers 18.8 million acres or 55 percent of the State and contains 11.2 billion trees. The total volume for Pine is 524 million tons, 11 million tons more than in 2024. The total volume for Hardwood is 819 million tons, 12 million tons more than in 2024.



More than half of the forestland acres in the State are Sawtimber stands.



Volume figures from the survey show timber is growing faster than it is being removed for both pine and hardwood. The Growth/Drain ratio is 1.6 for pine and 3.5 for hardwood.

2026 Forest Survey

The 2026 Forest Survey is currently 28% complete. Completion of the 2026 survey is expected by December 31, 2026.

2025 Forest Survey

The 2025 forest survey data is available for public use at:

<https://research.fs.usda.gov/programs/fia#data-and-tools>

Forest Inventory and Analysis-Southern Research Station (SRS)

<https://research.fs.usda.gov/srs/centers/fia>

FIA one-click State Report (SRS)

<https://doi.org/10.2737/FIA-One-Click-State-Reports>

Baucum Nursery

Seedling Report

- Pine sold: 53,250, Hardwood Sold: 4,394,125, Total sold: 4,447,375
- Total lifted: 4,744,225

Recent Activities

- Planted 872 beds, 67 acres, for FY 2027
- Applied pre-emergence herbicide
- Set up and started irrigation
- Applied herbicide around irrigation risers
- Hired a new administrative specialist
- Hired a trade specialist to fill position 3 of 3
- Top pruned white oak and cow oak
- Spread mulch on fallow areas



Planting hardwood: seed placed in bed (left), seed in hopper (right)

Tree Improvement

The Department's Tree Improvement program provides landowners with the highest possible genetic gain in pine and hardwood seeds.

Recent Activities

- Potted 1,500 rootstock trees for winter grafting operations
- Completed three of four drone insecticide applications in the pine seed orchard
- Completed controlled pollination, including pedigree crosses and pollen collection for 2027 breeding
- Supported the Urban Community Forestry program tree potting activities with soil mixer



Labeling pollen in glass containers (left) and preparing urban seedling for potting (right)

Forest Legacy

The Forestry Division uses grants from the AR Natural and Cultural Resources Council (ANCRC) and the Forest Legacy Program (FLP) to purchase land. The land purchases protect important forests from development, provide public recreation, and benefit the Division.

Recent Activities

- Appraisals underway for Central Arkansas water purchase of 3,471 acres from Rayonier in Pulaski and Perry Counties

Water Quality Management (BMP Program)

The Department is the designated management agency for the silvicultural section of the Arkansas Water Plan. Additionally, the Southern Group of State Foresters recommend that the following six items be included in state forestry water quality programs: 1) Best Management Practices (BMP) training and education for landowners, loggers, and foresters; 2) Courtesy Exams on active logging sites; 3) Monitoring of BMP implementation on silvicultural sites throughout the state; 4) Resolution of timber harvesting/water quality complaints; 5) Coordination with other state and federal agencies, and; 6) Participation in water quality grants. Following are descriptions of the activities, if applicable, that have occurred in the six items.

BMP training and education for landowners, loggers, and foresters.

- Two logger training sessions were held with 75 total contractors

Courtesy Exams

- Courtesy exams provide an opportunity for water quality staff to meet with foresters and loggers in the field to discuss BMP implementation. Parties that request courtesy exams are provided copies of

Arkansas's BMP Implementation Report, the "BMPs for Water Quality Protection" manual and a technical assistance summary report of recommendations.

- Five field exams were conducted during this period. This included several industry final harvest examinations.

BMP Monitoring

- The 2023-2025 BMP Implementation Survey Report is available on website and will be printed soon
- Final report of the 319 grant was submitted to the Natural Resources Division
- Working on a new continuous BMP monitoring strategy; using HI Form satellite imagery and voluntarily supplied harvest locations, we will start to collect BMP checks more frequently.
 - 19 industry and federal public land sites evaluated

Complaint Resolution

The Forestry Division handles silvicultural complaints and will make determinations concerning whether water quality impairment, or the potential of impairment, has taken place. Below is a summary of BMP complaint activities for this quarter.

- Two complaints were received this quarter. One was found non-valid and the other was found valid and referred to AR Department of Energy and Environment.

Coordination with other Agencies

- Attended SFI audit on an AGFC WMA
- Summer SGSF Water Resource Committee Conference was attended via zoom.

Forest Health

The Division Forester, Chandler Barton, and Forest Health Specialist, David Blythe, assist Department personnel statewide in efforts to maintain healthy, productive forest ecosystems by preventing, detecting, monitoring, and suppressing damaging insects and diseases. The Department offers technical assistance to landowners who encounter forest health issues.

- Southern pine beetle (SPB) trapping has been concluded for the year 2026. The counties trapped were Ashley, Bradley, Calhoun, Drew, Ouachita, and Union counties. Zero beetles were identified in this year's catch and extends Arkansas Forestry trapping efforts to three consecutive years without a confirmed SPB.
- Forest health continues to formulate a forest health-focused educational workshop later in the 2026 calendar year. This workshop is planned to be held in the new Forest Health Research Center on the campus of UA-Monticello.
 - The Forest Health Research Center at UA-Monticello is nearing completion and staff have moved into the building. The Forestry Division will have a dedicated office in the building as a workspace.
- In 2024, Arkansas Forest Health staff and Forest Service staff met for a joint field visit to the Cache River National Wildlife Refuge. This visit was to observe a reported mortality event of sugarberry trees in the area and ended with no definitive answers. The follow-up visit for this site is scheduled for July 9th and will include staff from the AR Department of Agriculture, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, UA-Monticello, and U.S. Forest Service researchers.
- Spongy moth trapping is underway across the state, and ~340 traps are currently in place.
- Forestry staff have assisted with a survey with the University of Arkansas, to detect any presence of the Formosan termite in Arkansas. This structural pest has not been identified in the state but neighboring communities in other states have had positive catches; Memphis, Monroe, Shreveport, Texarkana. These traps have been collected and will be analyzed by university staff for termite identification.

Looking Ahead:

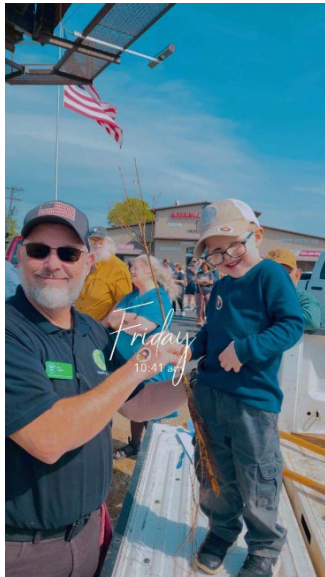
- Forest Health will continue an Ips pine beetle population survey started in 2025 for the USFS. This will take place throughout the month of September.
- Emerald ash borer (EAB) has yet to have a new county confirmation in 2026, but this may change soon, with shifting focus to other forest pests as summer moves along.

Community Forestry Program

Urban and community forestry staff assist communities, government agencies, educational institutions, non-profit organizations, arborists, and landowners by providing them with training and education regarding the management of community forests as well as individual trees.



Free Tree Fridays (FTF)/ReLeaf Campaign Summary



- Free Tree Friday events: 30
- Seedlings distributed: 12,350 (pecan, sycamore, overcup oak, and Shumard oak)
- Attendance: 3,200 people
- ReLeaf events (joint effort with AUFC to distribute potted trees in communities previously impacted by natural disasters: Hot Springs Village (March 20th), Paragould (April 3rd), Hot Springs (April 22nd), and Little Rock (April 24th))
- Potted trees distributed through ReLeaf: 800
- Remaining FTF seedlings potted to be grown for future potted tree (Arkansas Community Tree/ReLeaf) donations:

(left) A Free Tree Friday attendee sent Urban Forestry Representative Bill Tripp this photo along with appreciation for his effort in setting up a Free Tree Friday event in her community of Pocahontas.

(below, clockwise from top left) Harold Fisher (pictured at Little Rock event) and other Forestry staff were able to offer both potted trees and seedlings to attendees of the joint

Free Tree Friday/ReLeaf events; 2026 marked the first time a rooster attended a Free Tree Friday event (Hot Springs Village); the purchase of gravel provided an improved base for ACT trees grown at the Caddo Valley work center for future giveaways.



Champion Trees

During the 4th quarter, county personnel performing 5-year re-verification checks discovered that the national champion Nuttall oak, as well as a handful of state champion trees, had succumbed to mortality. Arkansas retains the national champion American holly and black hickory and the national co-champion red mulberry and water tupelo; there are now 20 state champion tree vacancies. Carroll County recorded a new co-champion Northern catalpa, and Washington County now boasts the state champion eastern white pine as well as the state shagbark hickory, which is owned by Washington County Forester Rosie Timmerman.



(left) Washington County Forester Rosie Timmerman went “above” and beyond to help portray relative size of the new champion eastern white pine. Timmerman actively looks for potential champion trees in NWA, and recently learned that she herself owns a shagbark hickory large enough to be named as the new state champion for its species!

Liberty Tree Project by Sons/Daughters of the American Revolution

The Urban and Community Forestry program donated 45 American elm potted trees from the Arkansas Community Tree nurseries in Caddo Valley and Greenbrier to various SAR/DAR chapters across Arkansas for their Liberty Tree planting initiative in honor of America’s 250th celebrations. County staff volunteered to assist with the plantings and ceremonies in some locations, such as Norman and Mt. Ida, where local media covered the event and published appreciative recognition of the Arkansas Department of Agriculture by the local DAR and SAR chapters.

(right) Forest Ranger Monty Coffman (pictured) and Urban Forestry District Representative Rob Loudermilk assisted with a stump removal to help prepare the Norman Town Square for a Liberty Tree planting.



DISTRICTS AND STATE FOREST REPORT

District Highlights (March 1–May 31)

District 1

During the report period, staff prepared 49 forest management plans for 3,408 acres, conducted two prescribed burns for a total of 17 acres, constructed two miles of fire lanes, and provided technical assistance to 164 landowners impacting 13,125 acres. District 1 crews suppressed 63 wildfires that burned a total of 1,532 acres. Additional accomplishments include relocating a storage container to the new Jefferson County work center location, and the installation of emergency light bars and sirens on district trucks.



Arbor Day tree planting in Jefferson County.



Assisted at the 2026 College Forestry Conclave hosted by UAM.

District 2

During the report period, staff prepared 20 forest management plans for 1,592 acres, conducted 23 prescribed burns treating 1,381 acres, constructed eight fire breaks for a total of three miles, and provided technical assistance to 81 landowners impacting 3,889 acres. District 2 crews suppressed 22 wildfires totaling 491 acres. Additional accomplishments include a community tree planting a Wickes and five Free Tree Friday events across the district.



Nighttime prescribed burn (Stevens Burn Program).



District 3

During the report period, staff prepared 13 forest management plans for 671 acres, conducted eight prescribed burns for a total of 4,166 acres, constructed nine miles of fire lanes, and provided technical assistance to 189 landowners impacting 14,801 acres. District 3 responded to 121 wildfires that burned a total of 7,934 acres. Additional accomplishments include the hosting of four Free Tree Friday events, assisted with two Qualified Burner Courses, and staff conducted three Smokey program visits.



Smokey attending Career Day at Salem Elementary.



Craighead County assists with teaching Qualified Burner Course.

DISTRICT 4

During the report period, staff prepared 20 forest management plans for 1,746 acres, conducted one prescribed burn treating 180 acres, and provided technical assistance to 59 landowners impacting 8,272 acres. District 4 responded to 69 wildfires that burned a total of 1,176 acres. Additional accomplishments include helping pot hundreds of tree seedlings at Bluff City to ship them to areas with storm damage and hosting multiple Free Tree Friday events across the district.



Wildfire near Walker Creek in Lafayette County.



Forest Ranger II Ray Modisette, Ranger I Chris Hamilton, and County Ranger David Porter, conducting a seedling survival check.

District 5

During the report period, staff prepared 20 forest management plans for 1,838 acres, conducted 10 prescribed burns treating a total of 920 acres, and provided technical assistance to 56 landowners impacting 3,377 acres. District 5 responded to 45 wildfires that burned a total of 753 acres. Additional accomplishments include assisting at multiple Free Tree Friday events, maintenance work on Hot Springs State Forest roads, and the hiring selection of a new Saline/Garland County Forester.



Hot Springs National Park 250th Preserving the Natural State Celebration



County Forester, Regine Skelton, delivers a Forest Stewardship sign.

District 6

During the report period, staff prepared 24 forest management plans for 1,476 acres, constructed three fire lanes for a total of three miles, conducted 20 prescribed burns treating 1,331 acres, and provided technical assistance to 243 landowners impacting 19,481 acres. District 6 responded to 57 wildfires that burned a total of 1,135 acres. Additional accomplishments include helping set up the State FFA competition, participating in County-O-Rama, presenting a Tree ID program at Camp War Eagle, and assisting with the Arbor Day event at the Crystal Bridges Museum.



Fun on the Farm in Crawford County.



County Ranger, PJ Yarbrough, and Ranger I, Eric Rogers, helping with the VFD kit distributions.

District 7

During the report period, staff prepared seven forest management plans for 2,762 acres, conducted one prescribed burn treating 14 acres, constructed two mile of fire lanes, and provided technical assistance to 22 landowners impacting 1,852 acres. District 7 responded to 54 wildfires for a total of 2,108 acres. Additional accomplishments include instructing at Prescribed Burn Course at UCA, disking at the Baucum Nursery addition, and hosting a S-131 class at Clinton.



Wildfire in Conway County.



Van Buren County Ranger, Andy Shaver, at a Smokey Bear program in Clinton.

State Forests

In 1957, the State purchased approximately 19,400 acres of abandoned farmland from the USDA. Today, Poison Springs State Forest (PSSF) includes 24,220 acres in western Ouachita and eastern Nevada Counties. Poison Springs State Forest is used for demonstration of good forest management practices, timber production, recreation, water quality protection, research, and wildlife habitat.

Recent accomplishments:

- Collected data from 43 permanent plots for the completion of our annual timber inventory
- Cleared and marked 16 miles of boundary lines
- Reworked and applied gravel to Shaffner Road
- Revenue totaling \$402,541.07 received from timber sales this quarter
- AGFC reports 35 turkeys harvested from the PSSF Wildlife Management Area
- First Hot Springs State Forest timber harvest complete



Hot Springs State Forest logging operation.



Hot Springs State Forest first timber harvest (70 basal area stand).