Comments or questions?
Please contact us:

USDA Forest Service
National Woodland Owner Survey
160 Holdsworth Way
Amherst, MA 01003
Toll-Free Telephone: (855) 233-3372
Fax: (413) 545-1860
Internet: www.fia.fs.fed.us/nwos

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 25 minutes per respondent, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Department of Agriculture, Clearance Officer, OIRM, Room 404-W, Washington, DC 20250; and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (OMB#0596-0078), Washington, DC 20503.

Version: Maryland 5.0

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National Woodland Owner Survey

USDA Forest Service, National Woodland Owner Survey

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OMB No. 0596-0078 Approval Expires August 31, 2013

Thank you for participating in this survey!
Please return the questionnaire in the postage-paid envelope provided.

If you would like a copy of the results of this survey, print your name and address on the back of the return envelope.

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If there are any additional comments or concerns that you would like to share, please write them below.

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Instructions

- ✓ Please provide answers for all of the wooded land that you own in Maryland. If you are part of more than one group that owns wooded land, please respond for the group that is listed on the outside of the envelope.
- ✓ The owner who makes most of the decisions about your wooded land in Maryland should answer this questionnaire.
- ✓ If this questionnaire is received by a company or other organization, please have a person knowledgeable about the organization's wooded land in Maryland answer this questionnaire. If the company listed on the envelope is a subsidiary of a larger company, please respond for the larger, parent company.
- ✓ If you do not own any wooded land in Maryland, please return this questionnaire in the postage-paid envelope provided and write on the cover "No Land Owned."

General Questions About Your Ownership

1. Which category below best describes your ownership?
   Check only one.
   - ☐ Individual
   - ☐ Joint, such as a husband and wife
   - ☐ Family partnership
   - ☐ Trust or estate
   - ☐ Corporation or business partnership
   - ☐ Other (please specify): _____

2. How many people are a part of this ownership?

   ☐☐☐ Owners

General Questions about Your Wooded Land

3. Wooded land covers 41% of Maryland.
   Wooded land includes:
   - ✓ Woods, woodlots, timberland, and forests
   - ✓ Land at least 1 acre in size, 120 feet wide, and has at least 10 trees per acre
   - ✓ Land at least 1 acre in size, where trees were removed and trees will grow again

   Wooded land does *not* include:
   - ✓ Christmas tree farms, orchards, or nurseries
   - ✓ Land that is mowed for lawn

   a. How many total acres of land do you currently own in Maryland?
   [ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ] Acres of land in Maryland

   b. How many acres of wooded land do you currently own in Maryland?
   [ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ] Acres of wooded land in Maryland

   c. Do you currently own more than one property with wooded land in Maryland?
   ☐ Yes ☐ No
   ↳ If yes, how many separate, unconnected properties with wooded land do you currently own?
   [ ][ ][ ][ ] Properties with wooded land in Maryland

4. Is your home (primary residence) on or within a mile of any of your wooded land in Maryland?
   ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

5. Do you have a vacation home or cabin on or within a mile of any of your wooded land in Maryland?
   ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

6. Do you own any land that is farmed or ranched in Maryland?
   For the purpose of this survey, a farm or ranch is a place where, in most years, $1,000 or more is earned from the sale of crops (other than forest products) or animals.
   ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable
   ↳ If yes, is any of it within a mile of any of your wooded land in Maryland?
   ☐ Yes ☐ No

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General Questions About You

Please provide answers for up to two owners. If you are responding on behalf of a business or other organization, skip this section.

	Owner 1	Owner 2
29. Are you retired?	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
30. What is or was your main occupation?	_____	_____
31. What is your age?	[ ][ ] Years	[ ][ ] Years
32. What is your gender?	☐ Male ☐ Female	☐ Male ☐ Female
33. What is the highest degree or level of school you have completed?	☐ Less than 12th grade ☐ High school/GED ☐ Some college ☐ Associate degree ☐ Bachelor's degree ☐ Advanced degree	☐ Less than 12th grade ☐ High school/GED ☐ Some college ☐ Associate degree ☐ Bachelor's degree ☐ Advanced degree
34. Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin?	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
35. What is your race? Select *one or more.*	☐ American Indian or Alaska Native ☐ Asian ☐ Black or African-American ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander ☐ White	☐ American Indian or Alaska Native ☐ Asian ☐ Black or African-American ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander ☐ White

36. What is your household's annual income?
   ☐ Less than $25,000
   ☐ $25,000 to $49,999
   ☐ $50,000 to $99,999
   ☐ $100,000 to $199,999
   ☐ $200,000 or more

37. On average, what percentage of your household's annual income is derived from the wooded land that you own?
   [ ][ ][ ] Percent

The Future of Your Wooded Land

27. How likely is it that you will sell or give away any of your wooded land in Maryland in the next 5 years?

Extremely likely	Likely	Undecided	Unlikely	Extremely unlikely
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

If likely or extremely likely, answer a and b.

a. Who will likely receive it?
Check all that apply

☐ My children → _____ Number of children
☐ Another family member(s) → _____ Number
☐ Other individual(s)
☐ A business
☐ A government agency
☐ Don't know
☐ Other (please specify): _____

b. Why are you planning to sell it or give it away?
Check all that apply

☐ I am ready to give it away
☐ Too expensive to hold or maintain
☐ I need the money
☐ High market value
☐ No longer interested in owning it
☐ Part of investment strategy
☐ Other (please specify): _____

28. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements.
Check one box for each item.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
I want my wooded land to stay wooded	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
I would sell my land if I was offered a reasonable price	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

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Your Reasons for Owning Wooded Land

7. How important are the following as reasons for why you currently own your wooded land in Maryland?
If you own one property, check one box for each item.
If you own more than one property in Maryland, consider them all and check one or more boxes for each item.

	Very important	Important	Moderately important	Of little importance	Not important	Not applicable
To enjoy beauty or scenery	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
To protect nature or biological diversity	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
To protect water resources	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
To protect or improve wildlife habitat	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
For land investment	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Is part of my home site/primary residence	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Is part of my cabin or vacation home site	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Is part of my farm or ranch	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
For privacy	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
To raise my family	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
To pass land on to my children or other heirs	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
For firewood	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
For timber products, such as logs or pulpwood	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
For nontimber forest products, such as berries or maple syrup	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
For hunting	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
For recreation, other than hunting	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

↳ (Please specify): _____

The History of Your Wooded Land

8. a. How did you get your wooded land in Maryland?
Check all that apply.
☐ Purchased
☐ Inherited
☐ Received as gift
☐ Other (please specify): _____

b. From whom did you get your woodland?
Check all that apply.
☐ My parents and/or my spouse's parents
☐ My spouse
☐ Another family member
☐ Other individual(s)
☐ A business
☐ A government agency
☐ Other (please specify): _____

c. In what year did you, personally, first acquire wooded land in Maryland?
☐☐☐☐ Year

9. a. How many times have you sold or given away any of your wooded land in Maryland?
☐ Never → *If never, skip to question 10.*
☐ Once (1 time)
☐ 2 to 5 times
☐ 6 or more times

b. If sold or given away, who received it?
Check all that apply.
☐ My children
☐ Another family member
☐ Other individual(s)
☐ A business
☐ A government agency
☐ Other (please specify): _____

c. Have you sold or given away any of your wooded land in Maryland in the past 5 years?
☐ Yes ☐ No

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Concerns

26. Please indicate your level of concern about each of the following topics for your wooded land in Maryland.
If you own one property, check one box for each item.
If you own more than one property in Maryland, consider them all and check one or more boxes for each item.

	Great concern	Concern	Moderate concern	Of little concern	No concern	Not applicable
Air pollution	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Damage or noise from off-road vehicles	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Damage from animals	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Development of nearby lands	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Drought or lack of water	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Global climate change	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
High property taxes	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Invasive plant species	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Keeping land intact for future generations	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Misuse of wooded land, such as vandalism or dumping	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Trespassing or poaching	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Unwanted insects or diseases	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Water pollution	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Wildfire	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Wind or ice storms	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
↳ (Please specify): _____						

24. How helpful would each of the following be to you?
Check one box for each item.

	Very helpful	Helpful	Moderately helpful	Of little help	Of no help	Not applicable	Don't know
Advice on woodland management	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Advice on how to transfer land to the next generation	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Advice on selling or giving away development rights	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Cost-sharing for woodland management	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
More favorable tax policies	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Stronger timber markets	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

↳ (Please specify): _____

25. How would you **prefer** to get advice or information related to your wooded land?
Check all that apply.

☐ Talk to someone
☐ Have someone visit my land
☐ Written materials, such as brochures or other publications
☐ Internet
☐ Conference or workshop
☐ Other (please specify): _____
☐ I don't want/need advice or information

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Uses of Your Wooded Land

10. Who makes the management decisions, such as whether or not to harvest trees, for your wooded land in Maryland?
Check all that apply.

☐ Me
☐ My spouse
☐ My children
☐ My parents
☐ Another family member
☐ My business partner
☐ My land manager or forester
☐ Other (please specify): _____

11. Do you have a written management or stewardship plan for any of your wooded land in Maryland?

☐ Yes → If yes, have you taken actions to implement it?
☐ Yes ☐ No

→ Who wrote it?
Check one.
☐ I did
☐ Private consultant forester
☐ Forest industry forester
☐ State or local government forester
☐ Federal government forester
☐ Other (please specify): _____

☐ No → If no, why not?
Check all that apply.
☐ I don't want/need one
☐ Too busy
☐ Too expensive
☐ Too complicated
☐ Other (please specify): _____

12. a. Have any trees been cut or removed from your wooded land in Maryland since you have owned it?
Check all that apply.

	Yes, for personal use	Yes, for sale	Yes, for other reasons	No
Firewood	☐	☐	☐	☐
Logs	☐	☐	☐	☐
Wood chips	☐	☐	☐	☐
Unwanted trees	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐	☐

↳ (Please specify): _____

If no to all the above, skip to question 13.

b. Was a professional forester used to plan, mark, contract, or oversee any of the cuts?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Not applicable

c. Was a certified or master logger used for any of the cuts?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Not applicable

13. Have nontimber forest products been collected from any of your wooded land in Maryland since you have owned it?
Check all that apply.

	Yes, for personal use	Yes, for sale	No
Edibles, such as berries or maple syrup	☐	☐	☐
Medicinal, such as ginseng or St. John's wort	☐	☐	☐
Landscaping, such as transplants	☐	☐	☐
Decorative, such as boughs or birch bark	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐

↳ (Please specify): _____

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Sources of Information

23. Have you talked with anyone or received advice/information about care, management, or protection of your wooded land in Maryland in the past 5 years?

☐ Yes ☐ No

↳ *If yes, please answer a, b, and c.*

a. What was it about?
Check all that apply.
☐ Insects or plant diseases
☐ Wildlife or wildlife habitat
☐ Timber production
☐ Land conservation
☐ Fire safety
☐ Other (please specify): _____

b. How did it happen?
Check all that apply.
☐ Talked to someone
☐ Someone visited my land
☐ Received a brochure or other written material
☐ From the Internet
☐ Attended a conference or workshop
☐ Other (please specify): _____

c. Who was involved?
Check all that apply.
☐ State or local government employee
☐ Federal government employee
☐ Private consultant
☐ Another landowner
☐ Family member or friend
☐ Other (please specify): _____

Recreation on Your Wooded Land

21. a. Who, with your permission, has hunted, hiked, or otherwise recreated on your wooded land in Maryland in the past 5 years?
Check all that apply.

- ☐ Me and/or my spouse
- ☐ My children
- ☐ Other family members
- ☐ Friends
- ☐ Neighbors
- ☐ The general public for free
- ☐ The general public for a fee
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____
- ☐ Nobody → *If nobody, skip to question 22.*

b. How did you/they recreate?
Check all that apply.

- ☐ Hunting
- ☐ Fishing
- ☐ Hiking/walking
- ☐ Bicycling
- ☐ Camping
- ☐ Horseback riding
- ☐ Skiing or snowmobiling
- ☐ Off-road vehicles, such as ATVs or snowmobiles
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

22. Is any of your wooded land in Maryland posted to restrict access and/or use by the general public?

☐ Yes ☐ No

↳ If yes, what is restricted?
Check all that apply

- ☐ Trespassing
- ☐ Hunting
- ☐ Motorized vehicles
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

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14. Which of the following have occurred on your wooded land in Maryland **in the past five years**?
Check all that apply.

- ☐ Cut and/or removed trees for sale
- ☐ Cut and/or removed trees for own use
- ☐ Collected nontimber forest products
- ☐ Reduced fire hazard
- ☐ Controlled burn/prescribed fire
- ☐ Eliminated or reduced invasive plants
- ☐ Eliminated or reduced unwanted insects or diseases
- ☐ Road construction or maintenance
- ☐ Trail construction or maintenance
- ☐ Improved wildlife habitat
- ☐ Livestock grazing
- ☐ None of the above

15. How likely are the following to occur on any of your wooded land in Maryland **in the next five years**?
Check one box for each item.

	Extremely likely	Likely	Undecided	Unlikely	Extremely unlikely
Cut and/or remove trees for sale	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Cut and/or remove trees for own use	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Collect nontimber forest products	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Reduce fire hazard	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Controlled burn/prescribed fire	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Eliminate or reduce invasive species	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Eliminate or reduce unwanted insects or diseases	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Road construction or maintenance	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Trail construction or maintenance	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Improve wildlife habitat	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Livestock grazing	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

16. Have you ever leased or collected money (other than from logging) for allowing people to use your wooded land in Maryland?
☐ Yes ☐ No

↳ *If yes, please answer questions a and b.*

a. What did they use it for?
Check all that apply.

☐ Hunting

☐ Recreation (other than hunting)

☐ To graze/pasture livestock

☐ Land conservation, such as the Conservation Reserve or Environmental Quality Incentives Programs

☐ Carbon capture/sequestration

☐ Public water supply protection

☐ Wildlife habitat/biodiversity

☐ Other (please specify): _____

b. Have any of these activities occurred in the last 5 years?
☐ Yes ☐ No

17. Cost-share programs provide landowners with money to help them establish or otherwise manage their wooded land. Examples include the Conservation Reserve Program, the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, the Forest Land Enhancement Program, and various state funded programs.

a. How familiar are you with cost-share programs?

Extremely familiar	Moderately familiar	Somewhat familiar	Slightly familiar	Not at all familiar
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

b. Have you ever used a cost-share program to help you establish or manage your wooded land in Maryland?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

↳ If yes, have you done so in the last 5 years?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

18. To encourage good woodland management, groups have created green certification programs to recognize landowners who comply with the groups' standards. Examples include Tree Farm, Green Tag, Forest Stewardship Council, and Sustainable Forestry Initiative.

a. How familiar are you with green certification?

Extremely familiar	Moderately familiar	Somewhat familiar	Slightly familiar	Not at all familiar
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

b. Is any of your wooded land in Maryland currently green certified?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

19. Some state and local governments have programs that defer, reduce, or eliminate property taxes for wooded land. In Maryland, there is the Forest Conservation and Management program.

a. How familiar are you with this program?

Extremely familiar	Moderately familiar	Somewhat familiar	Slightly familiar	Not at all familiar
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

b. Is any of your wooded land in Maryland currently enrolled in this program or a similar one?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

20. Development rights can be sold or voluntarily given away.

a. How familiar are you with this concept?

Extremely familiar	Moderately familiar	Somewhat familiar	Slightly familiar	Not at all familiar
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

b. Have development rights been sold or voluntarily given away on any of your wooded land in Maryland by either you or a previous owner?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

c. If No or Don't know, how likely are you to do so in the next 5 years?

Extremely likely	Likely	Undecided	Unlikely	Extremely unlikely	Not applicable
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

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