



WISCONSIN TREE FARM INSPECTOR'S NOTES

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American Forest Foundation 2015 - 2020 Standards of Sustainability

The 2015-2020 American Tree Farm System (ATFS) Standards of Sustainability (Standards) were approved by the American Forest Foundation (AFF) Board of Trustees for enactment on January 1, 2015. The 2015-2020 Standards replace the previous version (2010-2015) and must be fully adopted by the ATFS community, including Tree Farms, State Committees, and Inspectors within one year of enactment.

All landowners with woodlands currently certified to the ATFS Standards must transition to 2015-2020 ATFS Standards during 2015. New landowners and properties entering the ATFS program after March 15, 2015 will be evaluated to the 2015-2020 Standards.

All Required Sample Inspections and Optional Re-inspections, after March 15, 2015, must be inspected to the 2015-2020 Standards utilizing the revised Tree Farm Inspection Record (004) form or app.

To be qualified to inspect to the 2015-2020 ATFS Standards, all ATFS Inspecting Foresters must update their credentials to the 2015-2020 Standards via the online refresher or classroom training. After March 15, 2015, all active inspectors will be changed to in-active until this is completed. Tree Farms can not be assigned or entered into the database until the inspector has become active.

The online refresh is designed to provide a high level review of the ATFS program and processes, new features of the program and the ATFS 2015-2020 Standards, including key revisions and how to address them in the field. ATFS inspectors that were trained in the 2010-2015 Standards and have completed an inspection within the last 2 years (2013-2014) are eligible to update their credentials via online refresher.

The ATFS training workshop offers a complete overview of the ATFS program and procedures, the ATFS Standards, eligibility, recognition programs and more. The classroom training is designed for foresters new to the ATFS program, ATFS Inspectors that are considered inactive (having not completed an inspection in 2013 or 2014) or an Inspector interested in learning with a group.

A classroom training workshop will be offered **April 29, 2015**. Registration materials will be available soon.