



## New York FLEP Practices

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### FLEP 1

**Practice:** Landowner Forest Stewardship Plans (LFSP)

**Purpose:** Development or revision of a Forest Stewardship Plan, or upgrading of an existing forest management plan to meet Forest Stewardship Plan standards.

**Eligible Components and cost share rates:** Cost share shall be 75% of actual costs not to exceed the following rates for new plans and 50% for revised or updated plans:

New Forest Stewardship Plan	\$ 250 /plan
Plus 5 to 50 acres	\$ 9 /acre
51 to 100 acres	\$ 7 /acre
101 to 500 acres	\$ 5 /acre
500 plus acres	\$ 4 /acre
 Revised or updated Plan	 \$ 100 /plan
Plus 5 to 50 acres	\$ 4 /acre
51 to 100 acres	\$ 3 /acre
101 to 500 acres	\$ 2 /acre
500 plus acres	\$ 1 /acre

**Standards and Specifications:** Cost share is authorized for the preparation of a LFSP prepared to format dated October 2000, adopted by the State Forester and the State Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee.

Cost share is authorized to revise existing LFSP with an expired life span (management recommendations not current) and update other forest management plans to LFSP standards.

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## FLEP 2

**Practice:** Afforestation/Reforestation

**Purpose:** Site preparation, planting, seeding and practices to encourage natural regeneration to ensure forest establishment for timber and fiber production and carbon sequestration.



**Eligible Components and cost share rates:** Cost share shall be 50% of actual costs not to exceed the following rates:

Softwood tree planting (seedlings and planting)	\$ 175 /acre
Hardwood tree planting (seedlings and planting)	\$ 200 /acre
Site preparation for tree planting	\$ 75 /acre
Site preparation for natural seeding	\$ 150 /acre
Tree Shelters	\$ 150 /acre
Weed barriers	\$ 50 /acre
Fencing	\$ 2 /lineal foot

**Standards and Specifications:** Cost share is authorized to plant tree seedlings, necessary site preparation and protection to ensure satisfactory establishment of a stand of trees for the purpose of timber or fiber production and carbon sequestration.

Cost share is authorized for site preparation necessary for natural seeding to establish a new stand of trees for the purpose of timber or fiber production.

A planting plan or regeneration plan (may be part of Forest Stewardship plan) approved by the Service Representative, is required that describes any needed site preparation, tree species, spacing, and protective measures necessary to ensure establishment of suitable numbers of desirable tree seedlings to meet objectives.

At minimum of three (3) acres shall be planted or regenerated. At least 500 softwood seedlings or 200 hardwood seedlings or proportional combination of softwood and hardwood seedlings shall be planted per acre.

All fencing determined to be necessary to restrict damage by wildlife species shall be of suitable design to restrict access. Tree shelters and fencing shall not be cost shared in combination to prevent animal damage. Domestic livestock must be restricted from areas of seedling establishment. Cost share is NOT authorized for fencing to restrict domestic livestock from practice site.

Weed barriers are authorized in connection with hardwood planting.

Non invasive native or naturalized species of trees shall be used for purposes of this practice.

The purchase or establishment of plant materials for orchard, ornamental, nursery or Christmas tree purposes is NOT authorized.

Refer to NRCS Conservation Practice Standard 490, Forest Site Preparation  
<ftp://ftp.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/pub/nhcp/pdf/490.pdf> and Tree/Shrub Establishment 612  
<ftp://ftp.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/pub/nhcp/pdf/612.pdf> for additional considerations.

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### FLEP 3

**Practice:** Forest Stand Improvement

**Purpose:** Practices to enhance growth and quality of wood fiber.

**Eligible Components and cost share rates:** Cost share shall be 75% of actual costs not to exceed the following rates:

Tree designation for non-commercial stand improvement	\$ 18 /acre
Cull tree and/or grapevine removal and weeding	\$ 45 /acre
Thinning Light (10 to 20 sq. ft. BA, 400 to 600 dia. in.)	\$ 60 /acre
Medium (21 to 40 sq. ft. BA, 601 to 1000 dia, in.)	\$ 90 /acre
Heavy (41 plus sq. ft. BA, 1001+ dia. in.)	\$110 /acre
Crop Tree Release 30 to 60 crop trees / acre	\$ 60 /acre
61 + crop trees / acre	\$ 90 /acre
Tree designation for commercial stand improvement	\$ 18 /acre

**Standards and Specifications:** Cost share is authorized for tree designation (marking) for stand improvement to enhance growth and stand quality by thinning, cull tree/grapevine removal or weeding. Tree designation (marking) will be according to a silvicultural prescription, approved by the Service Representative, developed pursuant to stand analysis data and an appropriate stocking guide for even aged management.

Cost share is authorized for tree designation for crop tree release. Tree designation will be according to a prescription, approved by the Service Representative, based upon stand analysis and the publication Crop Tree Management in Eastern Hardwoods NA-TP-19-93.

Cost share is authorized for tree designation (marking) for stand improvement to enhance growth and stand quality accomplished through commercial cutting (intermediate improvement cutting). Tree designation (marking) will be according to a silvicultural prescription, approved by the Service Representative, developed pursuant to stand analysis data and an appropriate stocking guide. The purpose is to facilitate science based silvicultural timber management to encourage sustainable forestry management practices by the delivery of technical assistance. Cost share is NOT authorized for activities associated with administration, marketing or other aspects of commercial sales not directly related to development of silvicultural prescriptions and designation of trees.

Cost share for tree designation is NOT authorized unless the stand is actually improved by cull tree/grapevine removal, weeding, thinning, crop tree release or harvesting.

Cost share is authorized for the thinning of forest stands. Thinning will be based upon a silvicultural prescription, as approved by the Service Representative, developed pursuant to stand analysis data and an appropriate stocking guide for even aged management.

Cost share is authorized for the release of crop trees. At least 30 desirable crop trees per acre must be released on four sides in even aged stands. Crop tree release will be according to a

prescription, approved by the Service Representative, based upon stand analysis and the publication Crop Tree Management in Eastern Hardwoods NA-TP-19-93.

Cost share is authorized for the removal of cull tree/grapevines or weeding of trees in multi aged stands, competing with desirable crop trees. At least 20 desirable crop trees must be released on two or more sides per acre. At least 20 desirable crop trees per acre must be released from competition of grape vines. Cull tree/grapevine removal or weeding will be completed according to a silvicultural prescription, approved by the Service Representative, developed pursuant to stand analysis data and an appropriate stocking guide for multi aged (all aged) management.

Cost share payment for this practice shall not exceed 75% of actual cost of implementation, not to exceed the above maximum rates.

Cost share is NOT authorized for improvement of less than three acres. The stand must exhibit a Site Index of 60 or greater.

Stand improvement for orchard, ornamental, nursery or Christmas tree purposes is NOT authorized.

Refer to NRCS Conservation Practice Standard 666, Forest Stand Improvement <ftp://ftp.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/pub/nhcp/pdf/666.pdf> and Crop Tree Management in Eastern Hardwoods NA-TP-19-93 for additional considerations.

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## FLEP 4

**Practice:** Agroforestry

**Purpose:** Establishment, maintenance, and renovation of windbreaks, or other practices using trees and shrubs in conjunction with agricultural land use, including practices for energy conservation and carbon sequestration.

**Eligible Components and cost share rates:** This practice is not available in New York at this time.

**Standards and Specifications:**

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## FLEP 5

**Practice:** Water Quality Improvement and Watershed Protection

**Purpose:** Establishment, maintenance, renovation and/or restoration practices including any necessary design and engineering to improve or protect water quality, riparian areas, forest wetlands and forested watersheds.

**Eligible Components and cost share rates:** Cost share shall be 75% of actual costs not to exceed the following rates:

Forest access corridor design and layout	\$ 0.08 /lineal foot
Best Management Practice component installation (water bars broad based dips, water deflectors, culvert installation)	\$ 50 /each
Culverts 18" dia.	\$ 11 /lineal foot
24" dia.	\$ 16 /lineal foot
Forest Riparian buffer establishment	\$ 200 /acre
Vegetative stabilization of forest stream banks	\$ 0.40 /lineal foot
Critical area seeding	\$ 100 /acre

**Standards and Specifications:** Cost share is authorized for the design and layout of multi purpose management and recreational access corridors. Corridors will be designed with a minimum cleared width of 8'. Forestry Best Management Practice components including water bars, broad based dips, water deflectors, critical area seeding, culverts and other suitable components approved by the Service Representative shall be incorporated in the design and layout of corridors to restrict erosion and protect water quality. All design plans shall be approved by the Service Representative. Field layout shall include demarcation of route and installation location of Best Management Practice components.

Cost share is authorized for installation of forestry Best Management Practice components for cross drainage on access corridors including water bars, broad based dips, water deflectors, culverts and other suitable components approved by the Service Representative.

Cost share is authorized for the establishment of grasses and forbs on forest soils disturbed in connection with access corridor establishment per design and layout approved by Service Representative, to restrict erosion or protect water quality. Seeding mixture shall consist of non invasive native and naturalized grasses and forbs suited to site. Cost share rate for establishment shall include cost of seed, soil nutrients and lime (based upon Cornell soil test) and installation. Cost share is not authorized for critical area seeding of less that .5 acres.

Cost share is authorized for the establishment of riparian forest buffer areas on non forest land suitable for establishment of trees. At least three rows of planted shrubs and/or trees at a maximum spacing of 12' X 12' shall be established. Non-invasive native or naturalized plant species will be used. Cost share is NOT authorized for buffers of less than .5 acre in size or less than 200' in length.

Cost share is authorized for the establishment of stream side shrubs and / or trees in a forest area where low plant growth is not present, to stabilize stream banks, restrict erosion, protect water quality or modify water temperature. Non-invasive native or naturalized plant species will be used. Cost share is NOT authorized for shrub and/or tree establishment on less than 100 lineal feet of stream bank.

Cost share is authorized for the establishment of grasses and forbs in openings on forest land (existing critical areas - road surfaces being abandoned, landing areas and similar sites) to restrict erosion and protect water quality. Seeding mixture shall consist of non invasive native and naturalized grasses and forbs suited to site. Cost share rate for establishment shall include cost of seed, soil nutrients and lime (based upon Cornell soil test) and installation. Cost share is not authorized for critical area seeding of less that .5 acres.

Refer to NRCS Conservation Practice Standards 342 Critical Area Planting <ftp://ftp.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/pub/nhcp/pdf/342.pdf> 391 Riparian Forest Buffer <ftp://ftp.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/pub/nhcp/pdf/391.pdf> and 580 Stream Bank and Shoreline Protection <ftp://ftp.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/pub/nhcp/pdf/580.pdf> for additional considerations.

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## FLEP 6

**Practice:** Fish and Wildlife Habitat

**Purpose:** Establishment, maintenance, and restoration practices to create, protect, or improve fish and wildlife habitat, including any necessary design and engineering. Emphasis will be on enhancement of game and non-game woodland wildlife and protection of woodland streams supporting fisheries resources.

**Eligible Components and cost share rates:** Cost share shall be 50% of actual costs not to exceed the following rates:

Wildlife crop tree release (20 or more trees released per acre)	\$ 45 /acre
Designation of trees for wildlife crop tree release	\$ 10 /acre
Wild fruit tree release and pruning	\$ 15 /tree
Artificial cavity or nest box installation	\$ 10 /each
Artificial hibernaculum installation	\$ 25 /each
Creation of forest openings for wildlife	\$ 200 /acre
Establishment of wildlife seeding in forest opening	\$ 75 /acre
Establishment of stream side vegetation on forest land	\$0.25 / lineal foot
Seep expansion/enhancement	\$ 25 /each

**Standards and Specifications:** Cost share is authorized for the release of wildlife mast producing crop trees. At least 20 crop trees per acre must be released on four sides and be in the main crown canopy. Release of less than three acres is NOT authorized for cost share.

Cost share is authorized for tree designation for wildlife crop tree release. Tree designation will be according to a prescription, approved by the Service Representative, based upon stand analysis and the publication Crop Tree Management in Eastern Hardwoods NA-TP-19-93.

Cost share is authorized for releasing and pruning of wild fruit trees (apple, pear, etc) located on forest land, that have value as a wildlife food source. A maximum of ten wild fruit trees per acre shall be released on four sides and pruned to stimulate fruit production.

Cost share is authorized for the installation of artificial cavities, nest boxes and hibernacula for forest dwelling bird and wildlife species.

Cost share is authorized for the creation of forest openings to establish early successional forest growth or desirable grass and forb habitat type. Forest openings shall be one acre or greater in size. No other openings or open land (agricultural land) may exist within 1000 feet of the practice site. When non-invasive grass and forbs, suitable to the site, are established for wildlife benefit purposes, nutrients and lime will be applied, based upon recommendations of a Cornell soil test, to insure satisfactory establishment.

Cost share is authorized for the establishment of stream side shrubs and/or trees in a forest area where low plant growth is inadequate, to provide aquatic habitat, stream bank stabilization or stream water temperature management benefits. Non invasive native and naturalized plant species will be used.

Cost share is authorized to expand and enhance natural wet ground seeps, to establish a source of water and to encourage establishment of herbaceous plant material in and immediately adjacent to wet seeps for wildlife species identified in the LFSP as desirable. Cost share is NOT authorized for enhancement of more than one seep per 15 acres of forest land, creation of ponds or for the development of sources of water for domestic livestock.

Refer to NRCS Conservation Practice Standard 645, Upland Wildlife Habitat Management <ftp://ftp.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/pub/nhcp/pdf/645.pdf> for additional considerations.

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## FLEP 7

**Practice:** Forest Health and Protection

**Purpose:** Establishment of practices primarily to protect, improve or restore forest health; including mitigating insect, disease, and animal damage to established stands. Emphasis will be on protection, improvement and restoration actions in response to damaging agents as well as preventative actions such as thinning to reduce host species of pests.

**Eligible Components and cost share rates:** Cost share shall be 75% of actual costs not to exceed the following rates:

Tree designation for stand improvement	\$ 18 /acre
Thinning Light (10 to 20 sq. ft. BA)	\$ 60 /acre
Medium (21 to 40 sq. ft. BA)	\$ 90 /acre
Heavy (41 plus sq. ft. BA)	\$110 /acre

**Standards and Specifications:** Cost share is authorized for tree designation (marking) for forest health stand improvement. Tree designation (marking) will be according to a silvicultural prescription as approved by the Service Representative, developed pursuant to stand analysis data and an appropriate stocking guide incorporating forest health considerations, to reduce the numbers of trees of species at risk due to forest pest or disease infestation.

Cost share is authorized for thinning to remove infected or damaged trees and susceptible species to reduce risk of significant damage or mortality to a forest stand by a forest pest or disease.

Applications of chemical or biological agents for control of forest pests (i.e. spraying for Gypsy moth) is NOT authorized.

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**FLEP 8**

**Practice:** Invasive Species Control

**Purpose:** Practices to eradicate, or control the spread of invasive plants that inhabit forested environs that interfere with attainment of owner's forest management goals.

**Eligible Components and cost share rates:** Cost share shall be 50% of actual costs not to exceed the following rates:

Mechanical removal or chemical control of invasive flora      \$ 100 /acre

**Standards and Specifications:** Cost share is authorized to control and or facilitate removal of invasive species of flora that, because of their presence, substantially restrict or prevent attaining forest management goals detailed in the Landowner Forest Stewardship Plan. Species considered invasive for purposes of this practice include: Autumn & Russian olive, Japanese barberry, multiflora rose, non-native honeysuckles, buckthorns, garlic mustard, Oriental bittersweet, ferns (hay scented, New York), Norway maple and Tree of heaven.

Use and application of chemical or biological agents for control shall be in compliance with all federal, state and local law or regulation and applied according to the label.

Control of invasive species for orchard, ornamental, nursery and Christmas tree purposes is NOT authorized.

Biological Control of Invasive Plants in the Eastern United States , FHTET - 2002-04, may serve as a reference for management and control.

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**FLEP 9**

**Practice:** Fire and Catastrophic Risk Reduction

**Purpose:** Establishment of practices primarily to reduce the risk from wildfire and other catastrophic natural events in areas considered to be of significant danger.

**Eligible Components and cost share rates:** This practice is not available in New York at this time.

**Standards and Specifications:**

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## FLEP 10

**Practice:** Fire and Catastrophic Event Rehabilitation

**Purpose:** Establishment of practices primarily to restore and rehabilitate forests following wildfire and other catastrophic natural events. Insect and disease outbreaks are not considered catastrophic as wildfires, wind and ice storms are.

**Eligible Components and cost share rates:** Cost share shall be 50% of actual costs not to exceed the following rates:

Stabilization of firebreak soils (critical area planting)	\$ 65 /acre
Stabilization of burned area (critical area planting)	\$ 65 /acre
Tree designation for stand improvement/rehabilitation	\$ 12 /acre
Thinning Light (10 to 20 sq. ft. BA)	\$ 40 /acre
Medium (21 to 40 sq. ft. BA)	\$ 60 /acre
Heavy (41 plus sq. ft. BA)	\$ 75 /acre

**Standards and Specifications:** Cost share is authorized for establishment of grasses and forbs on firebreaks and in forested areas burned, where soils are determined to be in need of stabilization to restrict erosion and protect water quality.

Cost share is authorized for tree designation (marking) for forest stand rehabilitation and improvement. Tree designation (marking) will be according to a silvicultural prescription as approved by the Service Representative, developed pursuant to stand analysis data and an appropriate stocking guide incorporating forest health considerations and rehabilitation needs to reduce the numbers of trees at risk of loss of productivity or mortality due to fire or catastrophic event

Cost share is authorized for thinning. Thinning will be according to a silvicultural prescription as approved by the Service Representative, developed pursuant to stand analysis data and an appropriate stocking guide incorporating forest health considerations and rehabilitation needs to reduce the numbers of trees at risk of loss of productivity or mortality due to fire or catastrophic event.

Refer to NRCS Conservation Practice Standards 342 Critical Area Planting, <ftp://ftp.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/pub/nhcp/pdf/342.pdf> and 666 Forest Stand Improvement <ftp://ftp.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/pub/nhcp/pdf/666.pdf> for additional considerations.

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**FLEP 11**

**Practice:** Special Practices

**Purpose:** Establishment, maintenance, and restoration practices addressing other conservation concerns on nonindustrial private forest lands as proposed by the State Forester and the Committee and approved by the Responsible Official

**Eligible Components and cost share rates:** Special practices have NOT been established for New York at this time.

**Standards and Specifications:**

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