



# Model Forest Policy Program

## Organization Summary

**Organization:** Unincorporated nonprofit group; Fiscal agent is the Foundation for Regional Excellence, a 501(c)(3) corporation, based in Roanoke, Virginia.

The Model Forest Policy Program (MFPP) is a public interest network that develops policy recommendations for profitable, ecologically sustainable forestry on private lands. MFPP provides an advisory group of scientists, attorneys, and other professionals to support a broad network of local organizations that work to improve forest policy. (see: <http://www.mfpp.org>.)

**Staff:** Nancy Gilliam, Bud Watson, Co Directors.

**Advisory Committee:** Sharon Duggan, Berkeley, CA, Jon Evans, Sewanee, TN, Sharon Kramer, Arcata, CA, Dan Stotter, Eugene, OR, Toby Thaler, Seattle, WA, Clint Trammel, Salem, MO, Ray Vaughan, Montgomery, AL.

**Southeastern Attorney Advisors:** Jerry Gray, Clintwood, VA; Brian Paddock, Cookeville, TN.

**Steering Committee:** Rich Collins, Charlottesville, VA, Nancy Gilliam, Rob Glenn, Roanoke, VA, Conni Gratop Lewis, Charleston, WV, Brian Paddock, Cookeville, TN, Matt Wasson, Boone, NC, Bud Watson.

**Web site:** [www.mfpp.org](http://www.mfpp.org)

### Summary of Programs:

**Progressive Forest Policy Development.** MFPP evaluates the successes and weaknesses of existing forest practice regulatory and incentive programs in all states that have significant forestry legislation. We are integrating this information and data into two useful components, a Model Forest Practice “Tool Kit” with “recommended statutory language” and an accompanying body of “support materials.” The Tool Kit constitutes a comprehensive guide for educating activists, the media, elected officials, and the public on what is needed to implement effective and sustainable forestry policy and practices. The Tool Kit is designed to be a continuously updated resource.

**Capacity Building for Forest Policy Change.** MFPP is providing all interested advocacy groups the tools they need to succeed in protecting the region’s forests via policy reform. For example, current efforts towards policy reform in the Southeast are fragmented. Thus, MFPP fosters communication in this region by coordinating efforts between the smaller community-based grassroots organizations and the larger state and national environmental groups. Major vehicles for this capacity building are an annual Forest Legislation Summit to gather forest policy activists for mutual education and communication with forest policy experts and a Forest Policy List Serve to network and disseminate information to these activists between legislation summits. Future plans include facilitation of broad based strategizing with a variety of non-traditional allies. We are implementing pilot projects of focused attention on specific states to secure successful policy reform. Such a process will benefit all states in the region.