

## **WHAT KIND OF FORESTRY SERVICES DOES A CONSULTING FORESTER PROVIDE?**

**1. TIMBER SALES** - A consulting forester is knowledgeable about timber and stays current on timber markets. He knows the buyers of timber products in your area and knows what kind of job they do. He can get you the best price for your timber and make sure that your woods, your land, and your interests are protected. This may include:

**Timber Marking** - By selectively marking your timber for you, a consultant helps you sell only those trees which are mature or ready for harvest. This will leave your better, younger trees to grow for the future.

**Timber Cruising** - If timber marking is not needed or wanted, the consultant can cruise your timber and estimate its volume and grade.

**Appraisals** - The consultant can estimate what your timber should be worth and then help you get the best price when you sell it.

**Sale Representation** - The consultant can represent you in the actual timber sale, from beginning to end, including:

- drawing up a timber sale contract to meet your specific situation
- advertising the timber
- contacting the appropriate buyers
- showing the timber to buyers
- opening bids
- conduct logging inspections

**2. FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANNING** - a consultant can meet with you and help you plan the future of your forestland. A properly managed forest not only provides timber benefits, but also natural beauty, wildlife, recreation and high quality water. After determining your personal goals and objectives, the consultant can prepare a professional plan to help meet your woodland goals for the future.

**3. TRESPASS INVESTIGATION** - Did you know that, under a recent Kentucky law (KRS 364-130), if someone crossed your property

line and cuts timber on your property without your knowledge or permission that you are entitled to receive triple damages in court? This law applies if the logger or adjacent landowner did not notify you in advance of their intention to harvest. A consultant can estimate the volume and value of any timber illegally cut or removed from your property and then help you recover damages.

**4. EXPERT WITNESS TESTIMONY** - In cases of timber trespass, theft, or other legal issues related to forestland, a consultant can provide expert witness testimony in court on your behalf.

**5. OTHER SERVICES** - Consultants can also provide other services such as vendor services for tree planting, site preparation, or timber stand improvement. Consultants may also provide or assist in environmental impact studies, ecological assessments and a great variety of other things which may in some way be related to forestland.

### **WHAT DOES A CONSULTING FORESTER COST?**

The fees of a consulting forester are set by the agreement between the forester and the client. These may be based on the time and expense of the project or may be an amount contracted in advance. If the contract involves a sale of timber or land, fees may be a percentage of the total amount of the transaction.

In all fee arrangements the services of a consulting forester offer clear advantages of economy without conflict of interest. Of course, all fees should be clearly specified and understood before a consultant is retained.

In professional ability, technical training, broad experience, honesty, integrity, and in their desire to serve no one's interest but those of his client, and ACF Consulting Forester is fully qualified to serve the needs and requirements of both individuals and businesses.

# **Kentucky Chapter Association of Consulting Foresters**



The Kentucky Chapter of ACF (KACF) is a non-profit, professional organization representing the professional consulting foresters in Kentucky.

## **What is a Consulting Forester?**

A consulting forester is a privately employed business person with a minimum of a B.S. degree in forestry from an accredited college or university.

## **What does a Consulting Forester do?**

A consulting forester provides professional forestry services to a client for a fee or commission.

**There is a KACF consultant working your area. Use the state map below to find a consultant working near you.**

**WHY DO YOU NEED A CONSULTING FORESTER?**

A consulting forester is your personal representative who is working to help solve your forestry related problems. If you answer "yes" to any of the following questions, then you want to consider employing a consulting forester:

- Do you have timber you want to sell and want to get the best possible price while still protecting your property?
- Do you need someone who is on your side to help you manage a timber sale?
- Do you need help in contacting reputable potential timber buyers and in drawing up and monitoring a timber sale contract so that your interests and property are adequately protected?
- Do you need to know how much timber you have and its value, either for a timber sale, for buying or selling land, or for tax purposes?
- State law now requires an adjoining landowner to give prior notification of their intention to harvest timber next to your boundary. Did you know that you could receive triple damages if they remove trees from your property and did not notify you prior to the harvest?
- Will you be involved in any type of legal proceedings regarding forestland?
- Do you need professional forest planning assistance?

These are some of the most common reasons a landowner wishes to employ a consulting forester. A consulting forester is available to advise and assist you with any problem connected with timber or the management of your woodland.

[www.kacf.org](http://www.kacf.org)

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