



Forester Licensing Law (RSA 310-A:98-117)

- Requires that all foresters offering services for compensation to private landowners be licensed by the State of New Hampshire, effective January 1, 1992.
- To qualify for a license, a forester must meet strict criteria for forestry education, field experience, ethical behavior and professional references.
- Licensed foresters must earn continuing education credits to insure that they keep their knowledge and skills current.
- This law was supported and endorsed by a broad coalition of conservation groups, public agencies, landowners, and NH professional foresters themselves.
- A Forester Licensing Board guides the licensing process and administration of rules.

Forester and Forestry Defined

- Forestry is the science of silviculture and the practice and art of managing forest resources for human benefit and environmental quality.
- Forestry practices include consultation, management plan development, timber appraisals and inventories, timber sale administration, protection, silviculture and woodland related activities.
- A Forester is a person who practices forestry and is licensed under the law. (In other words, an individual may not engage in the above forestry practices for compensation on private land without a valid NH license, unless under the direct supervision of a licensed forester).

How the Public Benefits

- Sound forestry conserves and protects New Hampshire's most abundant renewable natural resources.
- Forest landowners are encouraged to seek the assistance of foresters, with confidence that they are professional by training and practice.
- Landowners are not required to hire foresters, and no tax revenues are expended. (The Board's activities are financed by licensing fees).
- Landowners are protected from misrepresentation and abusive forest practices by unqualified individuals. Misconduct is reviewed by the licensing board, versus costly legal proceedings.
- Contact a conservation organization, agency or professional forester to learn more about the importance and value of forestry in New Hampshire.

For Additional Information

For additional information about forester licensing including a copy of the official roster, the law, the rules, applications, renewals, continuing education requirements, and the procedure to follow to register a complaint, contact the NH Board of Licensure, 57 Regional Drive, Concord, NH, 03301 or <http://www.state.nh/jtboard/fr.htm>.