

Special Issue

Economic Contribution of Forest Industry: Urban Forests, Forest Products Industries and Ecosystem Services

Message from the Guest Editors

Urban forestry, the traditional forest products industry, and ecosystem services each constitute important components of local and regional economies. Understanding the economic contributions and importance of urban forestry, forest products industries, and ecosystem services has become essential for policymakers, public and private agencies, and academics as these industries have intimate connections to jobs, income, and taxes. Tracking the economic contribution of the forestry sectors and ecosystem services is critical for several reasons. First, quantifying the magnitude of these contributions is essential to garnering support for urban forestry, forest products industry, and ecosystem services. Second, documenting changes in these activities over time is a useful method for measuring the economic health of these activities. Third, the economic contribution data can be used to assess if changes in policy, legislation, or tax law affect urban forestry and forest-based economic activity. Finally, documenting the shifts in urban forestry and forest-based economic activity may indicate how responsive these activities are to changes in local supply and demand.

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