



**Connecticut Farm Bureau Association, Inc.**

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**REPORT OF THE  
CFBA FORESTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**YEAR 2000 FOREST PRACTICES SURVEY RESULTS**

**September 21, 2000**

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## SURVEY ANALYSIS

In 1991 the Connecticut Forest Practices Act established the mandatory certification of all foresters and loggers operating in Connecticut. This program has been in place since 1996.

On May 30, 2000 the Connecticut Farm Bureau Forestry Advisory Committee submitted a request for information, with an accompanying questionnaire, to all municipal enforcement officers. The purpose of the request was to gather information on the status of regulations currently affecting forest practices in Connecticut. Opportunity was given to submit additional comments. A follow-up letter was mailed 30 days later to those municipalities that did not respond to the May 30th letter.

The information received from the municipalities was compiled, reviewed and summarized. The Connecticut Farm Bureau Forestry Advisory Committee provides in this report a summary of the information received and an analysis of the responses.

- Eighty-six (86) of the 169 towns responded or 51%.
- Respondents were relatively even in distribution across the state and across each county.
- Eleven (11) of the twenty (20) towns grandfathered under PA 98-228 responded or 55%.
- 45% of the towns reporting require a permit if logging is to occur in or near wetlands. This figure is higher (55%) for the towns that reported that are covered by PA 98-228.
- 36% of the towns considered logging as a permitted use-of-right agricultural activity. This figure was higher (55%) for the towns under PA 98-228.
- More than two (2) towns of every 10 (22%) require no application or review. The figure was slightly lower (18%) for the towns under PA 98-228.
- Four (4) of every ten (10) towns reporting (38%) expressed the view that the certification program had improved the quality and professionalism for forestry and logging. Again the figure was higher (55%) for the towns that reported under PA 98-228.
- Of the towns that took the time to respond to question 3 of the survey, 69% looked favorably at the certification program. Comments such as: "higher accountability", "better communication", "consistency", "fewer problems", "BMP's improved", and "improved quality" were used frequently.
- The majority of respondents indicated that additional regulation at the state level was unnecessary.
- Educational programs and materials was the clear mandate of the survey with 62% of respondents indicating a need. The towns covered under PA 98-228 were unanimous with 100% citing education as a top priority.
- Towns requested a need for educational programs and materials in areas including, but not limited to: BMP's, erosion and sedimentation control measures, commissioner training, site plans and information and clarification on the certification program and the different levels of certification.



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May 30, 2000

Dear Municipal Enforcement Officer:

In 1991 the Connecticut Forest Practices Act established the mandatory certification of all foresters and loggers operating in Connecticut. This program has been in place since 1996.

The purpose of this survey is to gather updated information on the status of municipal regulations currently affecting forest practices in Connecticut. Your response and comments are valuable in determining how such regulations have evolved and what direction they need to take in the future.

Please fill out the survey and return it to this office by June 30, 2000. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

For CT Farm Bureau,

Randolph Blackmer  
President

## 2000 Forest Practices Survey to Municipalities

1. Forestry and logging operations in my municipality are addressed in the following manner (please check appropriate response):
  - \_\_\_\_\_ a) Permit required if wetlands and/or wetlands buffer area is affected.  
Amount of fee for Inland/wetland permit \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_ b) Considered a permitted use-of-right as an agricultural activity  
No application or review required \_\_\_\_\_  
Application required for review \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount of fee \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_ c) Permit required from a land use office for commercial forestry operation  
Amount of fee for permit \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_ d) Other \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount of fee \_\_\_\_\_
2. Has the state certification program improved the overall quality and professionalism for forestry and logging operations being conducted in your municipality?  
\_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no
3. How do you feel your municipality has benefited from mandatory certification?
4. Do you see a need in your municipality for additional state forestry practices regulations to oversee forestry and logging operations conducted on private lands in Connecticut?  
\_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no
5. Would educational programs and materials on forest practices be helpful for your land use offices?  
\_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no  
If yes, what type of program or materials would be useful
6. Additional comments –

Municipality(s) under your jurisdiction – \_\_\_\_\_

Name - \_\_\_\_\_ Title - \_\_\_\_\_

Phone - \_\_\_\_\_ email - \_\_\_\_\_

Address - \_\_\_\_\_

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PLEASE RETURN BY JUNE 30, 2000 to: CT Farm Bureau, 510 Pigeon Hill Rd. Windsor, CT 06095  
fax 860-298-4408

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# 2000 Forest Practices Survey Results

Towns responding 86

Responses by county	Fairfield	13/23
	Hartford	15/29
	Litchfield	13/26
	Middlesex	7/19
	New Haven	12/25
	New London	10/21
	Tolland	9/13
	Windham	7/15

1. Forestry and logging operations in my municipality are addressed in the following manner (please check appropriate response):  
45% a) Permit required if wetlands and/or wetlands buffer area is affected.  
Amount of fee for Inland/wetland permit \$0 - \$510  
36% b) Considered a permitted use-of-right as an agricultural activity  
No application or review required 19 towns  
Application required for review 18 towns  
Amount of fee \$0 - \$110  
12% c) Permit required from a land use office for commercial forestry operation  
Amount of fee for permit \$0 - \$250 and one town has a \$10-16/\$1000 of job cost for the fee  
7% d) Other 9 towns  
Amount of fee \$0 - \$160
2. Has the state certification program improved the overall quality and professionalism for forestry and logging operations being conducted in your municipality?  
38% yes 27% no 35% did not know, had no logging in their community, or did not respond to the question
3. How do you feel your municipality has benefited from mandatory certification?  
**See attached**
4. Do you see a need in your municipality for additional state forestry practices regulations to oversee forestry and logging operations conducted on private lands in Connecticut?  
37% yes 50% no 13% did not answer or had comments which were added to questions 6
5. Would Educational programs and materials on forest practices be helpful for your land use offices?  
62% yes 32% no 6% had no opinion  
  
If yes, what type of program or materials would be useful?  
**See attached which were added to question 6**
6. Additional comments  
**See attached**

Response to question #3...**"How do you feel your municipality has benefited from mandatory certification?"**

TOWN(S)	COMMENTS (Improved professionalism)
Andover	Better management of forests. Clearer lines of communication regarding protection of water and soil resources
Berlin	We can retain minimal regulation
Chaplin	Good forestry practices
Colebrook	Makes us aware of forestry activities in town which we otherwise would not be aware of
Coventry Farmington	Assurance forestry/logging conducted in environmentally sound manner "
Glastonbury North Branford	Consistency, fewer problems " "
Old Lyme	Accountability
Salem	"
Somers	"
Waterford	" and increased professionalism.
Watertown	" and use of BMPs.
Woodbury	" and use of State listing to check for Certification.
Oxford	Helped remove incompetent people from the profession
Plainfield	Planning improved. Better communication.
Portland	Improved communication
Prospect	Level of protection. Town can contact State regarding site practices or about a specific company
Seymour	Gives control over forestry operations. (Town has little knowledge in this area)
Somers	Reduced number of complaints regarding trespassing.
Southbury	BMPs improved
Suffield	Quality control
Ashford	Better understanding and use of BMPs. "We still get idiots though".
Tolland	Loggers more conscientious about BMPs and contacting town officials

<b>TOWN(S)</b>	<b>COMMENTS (Improved professionalism) cont'd</b>
Torrington	Improved or increased professionalism. Less damage. Level of security.
Barkhamsted	" "
Goshen	" "
Groton	" "

Washington	Credibility
Avon	Experienced, quality operators
Kent	" "

Lyme	Improved quality
Mansfield	"

<b>TOWN(S)</b>	<b>COMMENTS (Improved cooperation with municipalities)</b>
Bolton	Certified foresters contact office to walk site and work with municipality
Hebron	" "
Killingly	" "
Montville	" ;problems with some notifications
Norwich	" "

<b>TOWN(S)</b>	<b>COMMENTS (Not aware of certification, no opinion, not applicable)</b>
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Bethany	Have no idea. Not aware of certification
Branford	"
Canterbury	"

Cromwell	No opinion
Middlebury	"

Newington	Did not know certification is mandatory
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East Granby	No applications since 1996. Do not know effect
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Sterling	No forestry or logging operations
Stratford	" "

West Hartford	Developed; little forestry
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**TOWN(S) COMMENTS (No change)**

Bethel Has not made a difference  
Burlington No change  
New Canaan "  
New Fairfield "  
Wilton "

New Hartford Has not been noticed yet

Bloomfield Limited impact

**TOWN(S) COMMENTS (Uncatagorized)**

Newton Most of the forest practices are not performed by state certified loggers. Most is for new home construction

Old Lyme Certification is good start. Does not promote BMPs or sustained yield or silviculture

Somers Certification has not improved logging practices. No use of BMPs in stream crossings. Substantial staff resource from town to monitor logging

Response to questions #5 & 6

5. Would educational programs and materials on forest practices be helpful for your land use offices?

\_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no

If yes, what type of program or materials would be useful

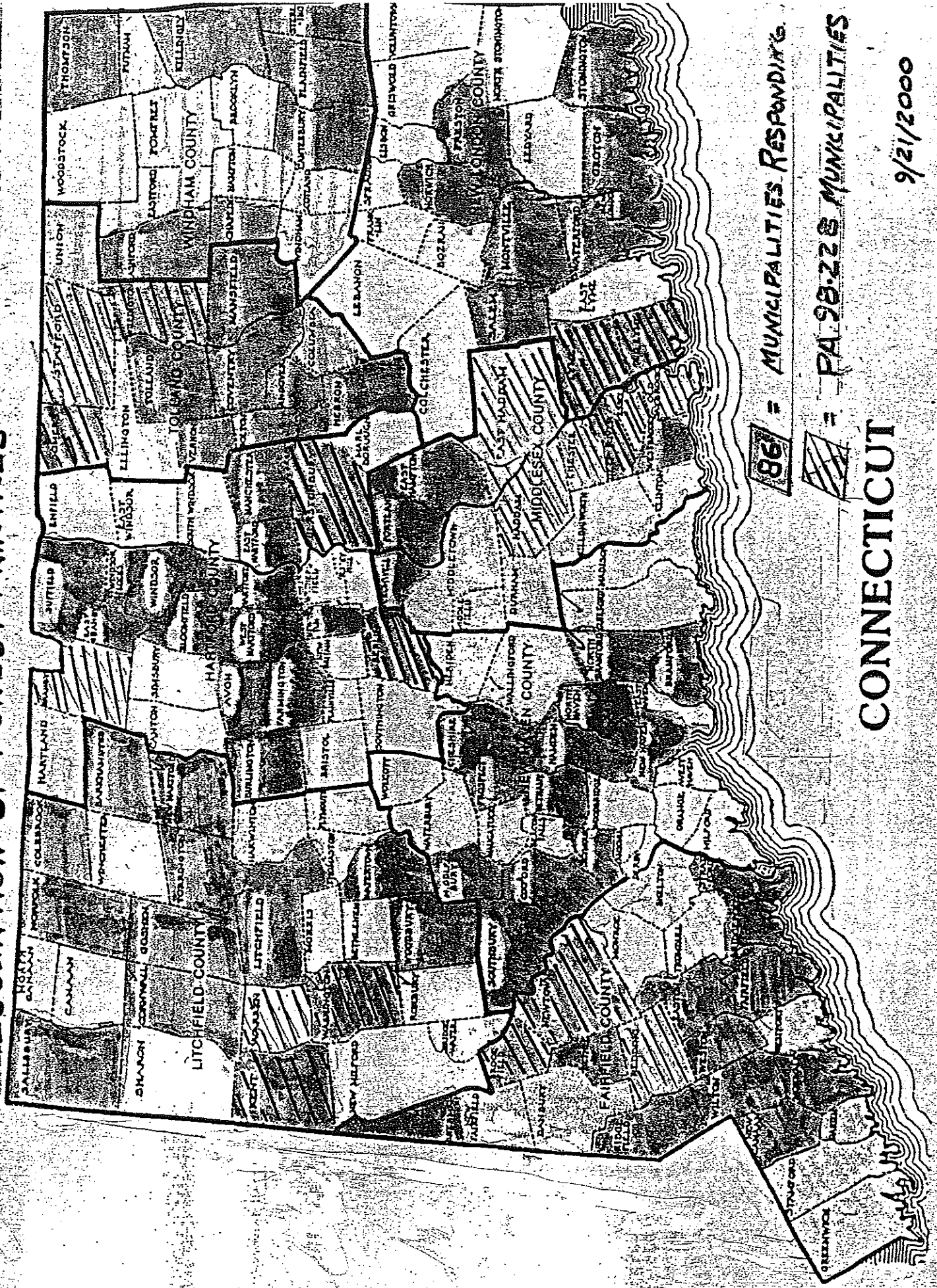
## 6. Additional comments-

TOWN	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	EDUCATIONAL NEEDS
Barkhamsted	Coordination with foresters needed prior to activity needed	Site plans
Bethany	Sample zoning regs and state standards	
Bolton	FPA MANDATES forest regulations!	Erosion control, skid road design
Brookfield		Sample regs, commissioner training
Canterbury		Permitting requirements Sample regs What is FPA
Chaplin	Types of safety signs	Bonding for road damages
Cheshire		Info on BMP's Info to property owners
Colebrook		State certification program Materials and displays at town hall
Coventry	Consider what MA does now Proposals are reviewed at state vs local level	Materials- "lay person" friendly
East Hampton		Materials
Farmington		Materials which discuss good forest practices Materials which describe proper practices
Kent		What to look for in an application What to look for in operations
Killingly	Materials in our office do not reach the loggers that do not follow BMP's or regs	Comparisons to show improper vs. proper harvest

TOWN	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	EDUCATIONAL NEEDS
Lyme		What are current practices
Manchester		Everything from basics to BMP's to state regs
Montville/Uncasville		BMP field seminars
New Canaan		Intro type materials, basic information
North Branford	Since most forest land is held by regional water company, no need for more regs	
Norwich		Road building Erosion and sedimentation control BMP's
Old Lyme	Current certification does not promote BMP's or sustained yields or good forestry/silviculture	BMP's State regs - permitted use of right
Plainfield		How regs impact successful management of forested areas
Portland		BMP's
Prospect		Qualifications to be certified BMP's
Ridgefield		How to do forest practices
Somers	Certification has not improved logging Unauthorized unprotected stream crossings are common Erosion controls are not used as a general practice. Substantial staff resources needed to monitor logging operations	BMP's
Southbury		Recommended forest practices
Stonington	Need clearer regulations requiring forestry and logging operations to notify the town prior to commencing operations	
Suffield		Programs similar to CTPA (Arborists)

TOWN	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	EDUCATIONAL NEEDS
Torrington		Certifications Recommended forest practices
Washington		Steps of a timber harvest
Waterford		BMP's Soil stabilization guidelines
Watertown		BMP's Basic information
Westbrook		Erosion controls How to track projects
Weston	No formal notification of logging since 6/99	Regulations Forester lists
Wilton		Problems of clear cutting

YEAR 2000 FARM BUREAU SURVEY  
REGULATION OF FOREST PRACTICES



[96] = MUNICIPALITIES RESPONDING

[Hatched Box] = PA 96-228 MUNICIPALITIES

CONNECTICUT

9/21/2000

CFBA FORESTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jeff Durst, Chairman	Woodstock
Rod Burgess	Haddam
Henry Grabber	Lebanon
Henry Gunlach	Norfolk
Milton Hathaway	Bolton
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Wayne Horn	Goshen
David Miscavage	Bethlehem
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