

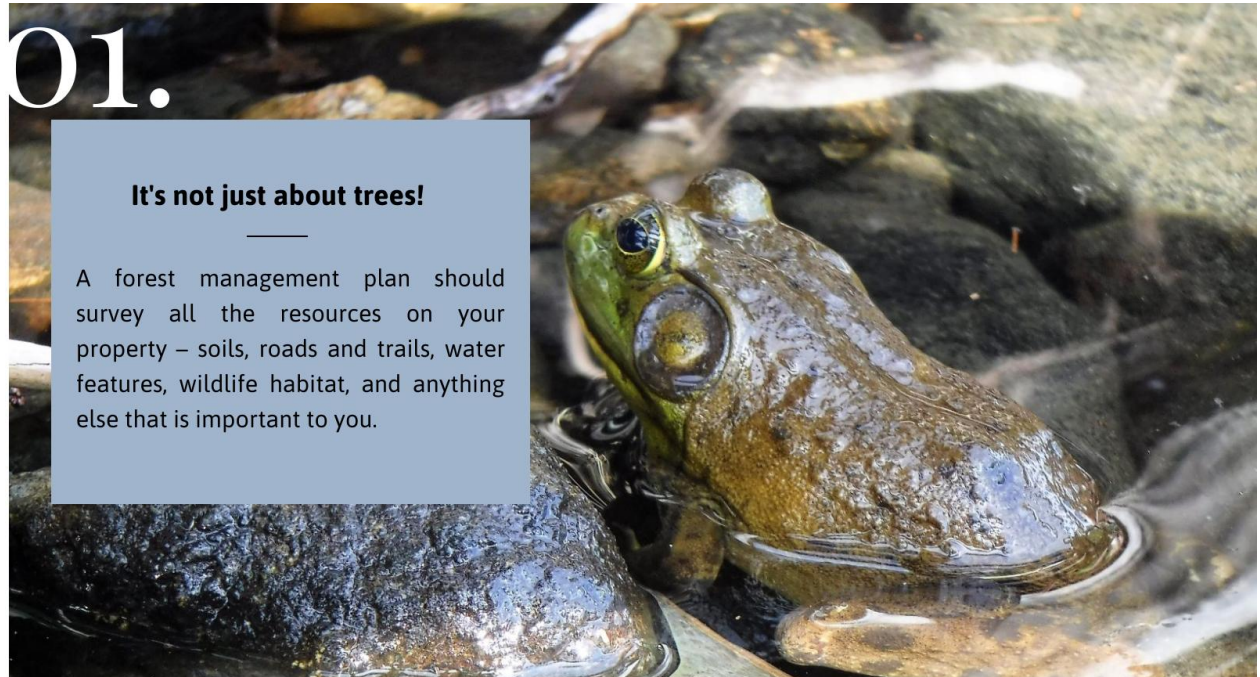


Five Reasons You Need a Forest Management Plan

You wouldn't go on a road trip without a map, would you? Well, a forest management plan is like a roadmap for your woods, and you shouldn't begin managing your woods without one either.

A forest management plan describes the current condition of the forest, outlines goals for the future, and provides management practices to help achieve those goals over time.

Here are the top five reasons why getting a forest management plan is a good idea for your woods:



01.

It's not just about trees!

A forest management plan should survey all the resources on your property – soils, roads and trails, water features, wildlife habitat, and anything else that is important to you.



Context

What is your favorite thing about your woods?



Priorities

Why do you own your property?



Vision

What are your expectations for the future?

02.

It gets you thinking.

A forest management plan is a great reason to consider what your goals are, and how you can meet them.

03.

A plan makes management more manageable.

Don't know where to start? A plan is like a "to do" list for your forest. It can help you keep track of management activities you've done so far, and lay out a timeline of practices to plan for in the short-term and over the long-term.



04.

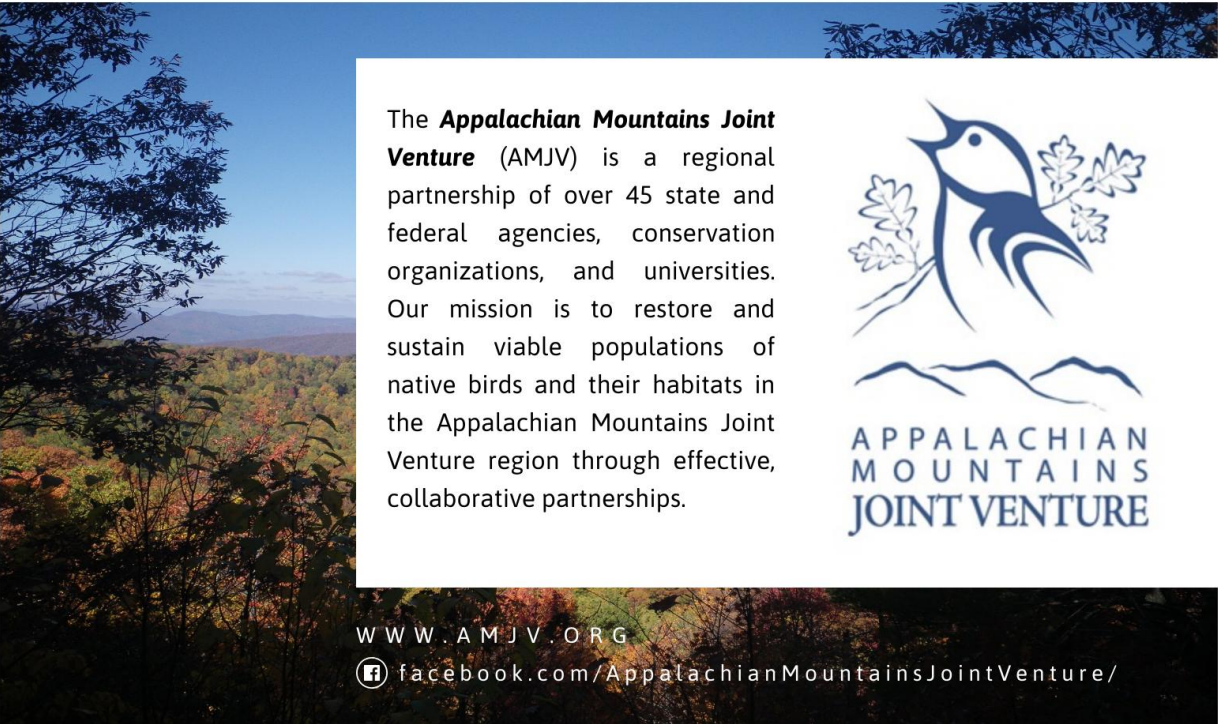
It could identify threats you hadn't noticed.

The inventory of your property should include the identification of any invasive plants or insects found in your woods. Identifying these threats early can help reduce treatment costs and prevent widespread infestations.

05.

A plan may open the door to financial assistance or tax-benefit programs..

A current forest management plan is a requirement for many federal and state financial assistance programs, including many programs offered through the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Also, financial assistance may be available to help with the cost of a forest management plan. Contact your local USDA Service Center for more information (www.usda.gov).



The **Appalachian Mountains Joint Venture** (AMJV) is a regional partnership of over 45 state and federal agencies, conservation organizations, and universities. Our mission is to restore and sustain viable populations of native birds and their habitats in the Appalachian Mountains Joint Venture region through effective, collaborative partnerships.



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