



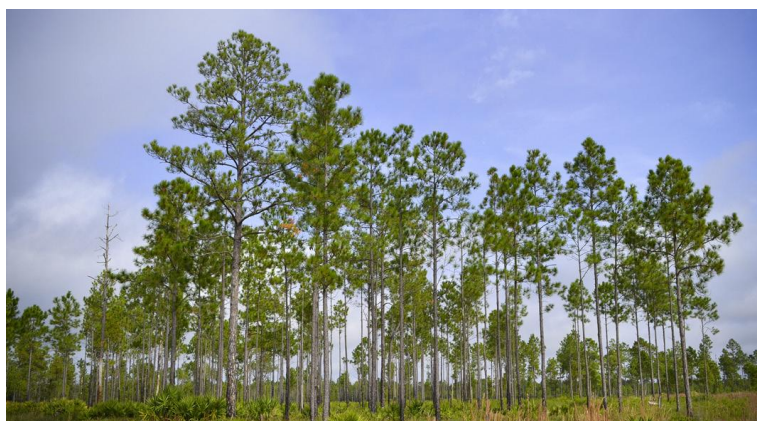
Twenty years ago, in the wake of the raging fires in the Greater Yellowstone Area, the Arbor Day Foundation began an enduring campaign to help plant millions of new trees in our nation's forests. Arbor Day Foundation members and partners soon embraced the urgent need to restore areas devastated by insects, disease, storms, and wildfires. Collectively, Foundation members and partners continue to support the environmental needs and benefits of our nation's forests. In 2009, they began a new partnership with the National Association of State Foresters to specifically support planting trees in state forests and on state-owned lands.

In 2007, the Bugaboo Fire ignited within the Okefenokee Swamp in Southern Georgia. The fire, after joining up with other fires, burned over 600,000 acres. Upon coming out of the swamp and into Florida, John Bethea State Forest in Florida burned thousands of acres to wildfire. Thanks to the funding provided by the Arbor Day Foundation and supporters, over 800,000 seedlings were planted in 2010. Through leveraging partnerships, nearly 900 acres were reforested within a few years of the fire scorching the forest.

Additionally, last month on nearly the one year anniversary of the most destructive fire in Texas, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Arbor Day Foundation and Texas A&M Forest Service appealed for help by launching the Lost Pines Forest Recovery Campaign, a multi-year public-private partnership to raise money to plant more than 4 million trees on public and private land. The September 2011 fire destroyed more homes than any other in state history, and it raged through 95 percent of 6,600-acre Bastrop State Park, as well surrounding private forest lands. The forest recovery campaign, expected to cost more than \$4 million, aims to plant native loblolly pine seedlings on about 16,000 burned acres. That includes about 2 million trees in the state park, and more than 2 million on surrounding private land.

The Arbor Day Foundation is leading the forest recovery fundraising, while the state parks and forest agencies will serve as on-the-ground partners in the five-year forest recovery effort. The foundation has already secured financial commitments from several corporate sponsors, including Mary Kay, Inc., FedEx, Chili's Grill and Bar, Nokia and Apache Corporation.

"The Lost Pines Forest Recovery Campaign is about bringing life back to Central Texas," said Dan Lambe, Arbor Day Foundation vice president of programs. "These trees are part of the long and important history of the people and land of this state. For just \$1 per tree, or about \$500 per acre, supporters can make a big difference at any level." The forest recovery campaign will support the work of the broader Lost Pines Recovery Team, a consortium of local, state and federal agencies led by Bastrop County.





Arbor Day Foundation – A Southern Success Story

This restoration program developed by the Arbor Day Foundation, offers a unique opportunity for state lands destroyed by wildfire to be able to have access to funds for restoration in a timely manner.



Learn more about our reforestation program by going to arborday.org/replanting or contact our Reforestation Program Manager, Brad Brandt, at bbrandt@arborday.org or call 402-473-9619.

Special thanks to the Arbor Day Foundation for allowing reprinting of some of the verbiage above.



Cohesive Strategy

Southern Update

The South has been working closely with the science team and multiple stakeholders to provide input to our regional risk analysis with the final draft due this month. The analysis will help promote emphasized alternatives that managers at various levels can utilize to more effectively implement actions to reduce fire threat, increase effectiveness of fire response and create landscapes resilient to fire.

The Southern report separates our proposed actions and activities by a set of five values, allowing stakeholders to associate with specific values, then drill down to actions that will have the greatest impact. As we move into implementation, data gathered by the science team as well as other planning tools (e.g. Southern Wildfire Risk Assessment and state action plans) can help managers at various levels prioritize their actions and activities to best suit their needs.

The Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy is currently in the middle of Phase III. Phase III encompasses the construction of a regional risk analysis heavily informed by science and science modeling. Phase III will culminate in regional and national action plans being finalized that will help set a new pathway for addressing wildland fire for years to come.

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