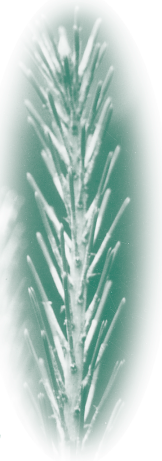


## Certified Family Forest

"Our parents provided a basis for us by practicing good forestry on their land ... they instilled in us a stewardship ethic for the land: forest land is important, it's valuable, and it should be managed in a way that is beneficial to everyone and everything. That's the main reason we became certified Tree Farmers. We manage our forest for timber production, yet we provide a habitat for wildlife and recreational opportunities for our family. And we do all this while taking care not to jeopardize water quality or soil conservation. We hope to instill this same stewardship ethic in our daughters."



Bill & Jill Russell,  
2006 Outstanding Tree Farmers  
of the Year for Texas



Established in 1941, the American Tree Farm System is the oldest and largest forest certification program in the United States. Sponsored by the American Forest Foundation, it recognizes and encourages good stewardship of private forestlands.

Texas joined the national tree-growing effort made possible by the American Tree Farm System in 1944. There are currently 2,200 Tree Farms in Texas that together encompass more than 700,000 acres. Nationally, 70,000 certified Tree Farmers are managing 30 million acres of forest in the United States.

Texas Forestry Association provides administrative support. For more information, contact TFA at 936-632-8733 or email [tfa@texasforestry.org](mailto:tfa@texasforestry.org). Also, visit the TFA website at [www.texasforestry.org](http://www.texasforestry.org) and the American Tree Farm System at [www.treefarmsystem.org](http://www.treefarmsystem.org).



**Tree Farm**  
**A Certified**  
**Forest**

## What is Tree Farming?

A Tree Farm is at least ten (10) acres of forestland under management, with a written management plan that accounts for water quality, wildlife habitat, soil conservation, biodiversity and recreational opportunities, as well as production of forest products. Tree Farming implies continual stewardship and sustainable production of forest products over time.

## Roots of Sustainable Forestry

**Pride.** Tree Farmers receive a certificate and a green and white sign that signifies a place where excellent forestry is practiced. Just as important, they share the satisfaction that comes from managing their land to the highest standards of good stewardship, and knowing that this commitment has been recognized by their peers. Each year, Tree Farmers from around the country compete for the honor of being named zone, state, regional or national Tree Farmer of the Year.

**Profit.** Being a Tree Farmer often means you'll grow and harvest more timber, and receive top income for your products. Along with the financial rewards will come healthier forests, cleaner water and

better habitat for wildlife, the other rewards that landowners seek from investing in sound, sustainable forestry.

**Pleasure.** Many people are drawn to Tree Farm simply because they enjoy being in the woods. Some look forward to the hard work of planting and tending, while others take their pleasure in recreation or the natural beauty of their forests.

## Becoming a Tree Farmer

Sound, sustainable forests begin with determining objectives, deciding what resources are available on your land, and developing a written forest management plan that meets American Tree Farm System guidelines as well as addresses your forest's needs for generations to come.

Qualified landowners committed to sustainable forestry have their property inspected, and if it meets Tree Farm standards, the landowner is enrolled in the Tree Farm System.

Tree Farms are initially certified by qualified inspectors, and then recertified periodically to ensure compliance with American Tree Farm principles and guidelines.

## Become A Tree Farmer

(please print or type)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

I own \_\_\_\_\_ acres of woodland in  
\_\_\_\_\_ County

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Work Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Directions to Property \_\_\_\_\_

*Do you have a written management  
plan for your land?* Yes No

*Do you use the services of  
a professional forester?* Yes No

Mail to:

Texas Forestry Association

PO Box 1488

Lufkin, TX 75902-1488



Texas Forestry Association

