

THE FORESTS IN THE COUNTY OF HALIBURTON

Forestlands cover a large majority of the land base in Haliburton County. These forests are either owned by the crown or privately owned by companies or individuals.



The Forests of Haliburton County:

- ◆ Contribute to the local economy by producing forest products, such as lumber, fuelwood and maple syrup, etc.
- ◆ Conserve soil and improve water and air quality
- ◆ Provide a healthy and sustainable ecosystem and habitat for a wide range of wildlife species
- ◆ Provide opportunities for a variety of recreational activities
- ◆ Increase the quality of life
- ◆ Contribute to human health
- ◆ Increase property values
- ◆ Create attractive communities making them a more desirable place to live

RESOURCES

Landowners are encouraged to make informed decisions regarding the management of their woodlot.

Below are some organizations that may be able to assist you:

Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council
(705) 286-5206
www.ontariostewardship.org/haliburton

Ontario Forestry Association
1-800-387-0790
www.oforest.on.ca

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
(705) 286-1521 - Minden Area Office
www.mnr.gov.on.ca

Ontario Woodlot Association
1-888-791-1103
www.ont-woodlot-assoc.org

County contact for By-Law inquiries, copies of the By-Law, permit applications or forest management information:

Forest Conservation By-Law Officer
Haliburton County
Phone 1-866-966-3305
or 705 457 6854
www.haliburtoncounty.ca
follow the links to tree by-law
in the municipal section

County of Haliburton
11 Newcastle Street
Minden, ON
K0M 2K0
Phone (705) 286-1333
Fax (705) 286-4829

FOREST CONSERVATION BY-LAW

Applies to All Private Forest
Properties 10 Acres and
Greater in Area



County of Haliburton

www.haliburtoncounty.ca

This brochure is to be used as a general guide only. Please refer to By-Law No. 3196 for complete information.

FOREST CONSERVATION BY-LAW NO. 3196

By-Law No. 3196, passed under the Municipal Act 2001, regulates and restricts the injury or destruction of trees on private properties.

The intent of the Forest Conservation By-law is to promote "good forestry practices" and conserve the forested landscape, while recognizing that most landowners are good stewards of their forests and have the right to make decisions regarding the management of their forests.

Harvesting operations occurring on properties that are larger than 10 acres (4 hectares) in size must obtain a permit from the County prior to the commencement of operations (there is no fee to obtain a permit).

Once a permit has been approved, the harvesting operations may be monitored to ensure compliance with By-Law No. 2955.

Exemptions from the By-Law (A permit is not required)

Below is only a partial list; please refer to By-Law No. 3196 for a complete listing of exemptions.

- The harvesting of trees to establish a roadway
- The harvesting of trees to create a building site, when a building permit has been issued
- The harvesting of trees for personal use. Personal use does not include any form of sale, barter, exchange, or other disposition of the trees
Examples of personal use are fence posts and fuelwood to be used directly by the landowner

GOOD FORESTRY PRACTICES

Good forestry practices utilize appropriate forest harvesting techniques to protect the following:

- Important ecosystem functions and processes
- Fish and wildlife habitat
- Water quality and quantity
- Forest health and productivity
- Site and soil conditions
- Aesthetics
- Recreational opportunities

A properly managed woodlot can be harvested more often allowing greater economic potential now and into the future as opposed to diameter limit cutting.

Diameter limit cuts are not considered good forestry practices and can reduce forest growth, genetic quality, and structural diversity in woodlots.

The benchmark for good forestry practices in southern Ontario is the: "Silvicultural Guide to Managing Southern Ontario Forests" (OMNR 2000).

In most cases trees must be marked prior to harvesting. Some foresters, forestry technicians and others are certified to mark trees in accordance with good forestry practices.



HARVESTING OPERATIONS AND BY-LAW NO. 3196

Harvesting operations under By-Law No. 3196 must be conducted under one of these three systems:

1. Good Forestry Practices

These properties should be marked by an OMNR certified tree marker in accordance with a silvicultural prescription produced by a Registered Professional Forester (RPF).

2. Diameter Limit Cutting

All trees harvested must have obtained the minimum diameter listed in Section 3 of By-Law No. 2955.

In Addition:

- The average residual basal area must be > 15m² per hectare
- Properties under the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program are not eligible for Diameter Limit Cutting
- No harvesting of trees may occur within 50 feet (15 metres) of a watercourse or publicly maintained road

3. Relief

Landowners who want to clear forests or otherwise cut trees outside of the other provisions of By-Law No. 3196 must submit an application for relief. County Council may grant relief from the by-law with conditions, or may deny relief from the by-law.