

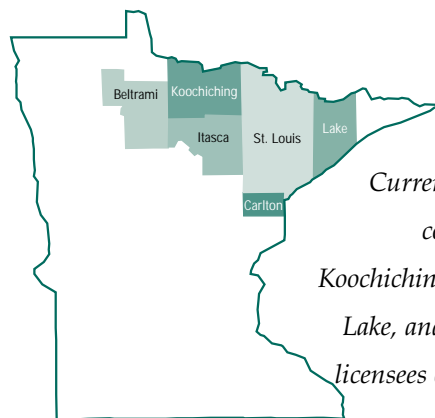


Sustainable Forestry InitiativeSM: Ensuring the Future of Our Forests

Since 1994, the forest products industry has worked with professional foresters, conservation groups, landowners and university scientists to develop the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI)SM program – a dynamic and comprehensive system of objectives and performance measures that guide the responsible management of our forests. It's based on the concept that responsible environmental practices and sound business practices can be integrated to benefit everyone. And it's proof that forest practices have changed for the better.

- ◆ SFI standards are governed and enforced by an independent, multi-stakeholder Sustainable Forestry Board. Members include environmentalists, academics, public officials and private landowners.
- ◆ SFI program participants support sustainable forestry practices on the lands they manage and actively promote such practices on other forest lands. This commitment stems from the participants' convictions that forest landowners have a critical stewardship responsibility to current and future generations of Americans.
- ◆ Specifically, the SFI program integrates the perpetual growing and harvesting of trees with the protection of wildlife, plants, soil and water quality. In short, it's about using smart science to achieve smart business results.
- ◆ Currently, more than 73 million acres of forest lands across North America are being managed under the SFI standard.
- ◆ In Minnesota, more than 2.73 million acres of public and private forest lands are licensed under the SFI program.
- ◆ Minnesota's efforts in implementing the principles of the SFI program are so thorough that in 1999 the American Forest and Paper Association presented its first-ever, national State SFI Implementation Committee of the Year Award to Minnesota.
- ◆ The University of Minnesota has recently selected the SFI program to license the lands of its Forestry Center in Cloquet.

For more information on the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, check out the American Forest and Paper Association's Web site: www.afandpa.org



Currently, the Minnesota counties of Beltrami, Koochiching, Itasca, St. Louis, Lake, and Carlton are active licensees of the SFI program.

Sustainable