

Kentucky



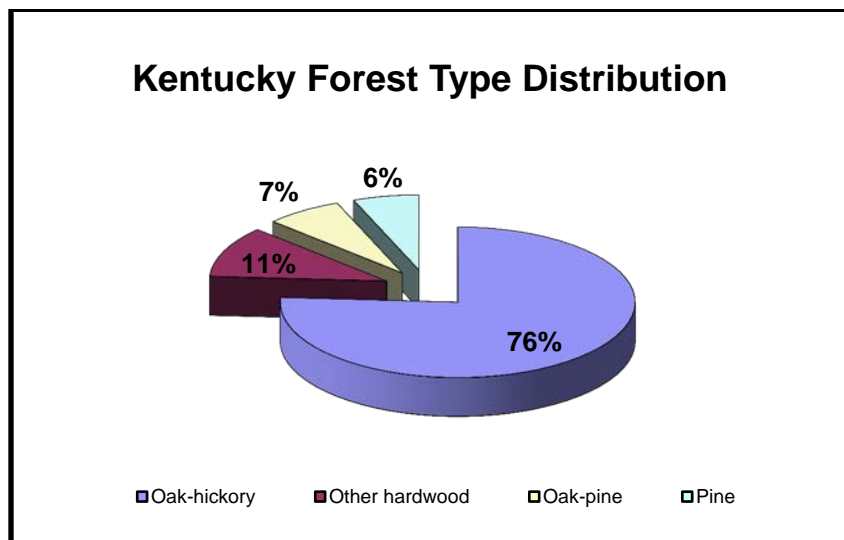
Forest Health Highlights

2013

The Resource



Kentucky's forests cover more than 12.6 million acres, almost half of the state's land area. The majority of the state's forested land, some 11.2 million acres, is in non-industrial private ownership, while approximately 699,000 acres are in national forest. Forestry is an important industry in Kentucky, providing 29,400 jobs and producing \$468 million in annual revenue. Kentucky's forests are also prized for their scenic beauty, supporting tourism and outdoor recreation and providing wildlife habitat from the Appalachian Mountains in the east to the Mississippi Valley in the west. Major forest types in the state include oak-hickory, pine, and mixed oak-pine. Other hardwoods comprise 11% of the state's forests.



Forest Influences and Programs

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)

The emerald ash borer has been confirmed in 28 Kentucky counties. These counties are Anderson, Bell, Boone, Bourbon, Boyd, Boyle, Bracken, Campbell, Carroll, Fayette, Franklin, Garrard, Greenup, Hardin, Henry, Jefferson, Jessamine, Kenton, Oldham, Owen, Pendleton, Pike, Rockcastle, Scott, Shelby, Whitley and Woodford. All states surrounding Kentucky, with Tennessee being the most recent, have some level of EAB infestation. The north central region of Kentucky and two disjunct counties in the northeastern part of the state are under quarantine. The state continues to have a regional quarantine. More information can be found at <http://pest.ca.uky.edu/EXT/EAB/welcome.html>

Additional EAB locations are found in adjacent states within adjacent counties or within two counties of Kentucky on all sides of the state.

The University of Kentucky, Department of Entomology contracts the placement of the EAB traps which are placed statewide. The coordinates of all confirmation sites as well as positive traps are available from the University of Kentucky, Department of Entomology. The state contact is Joe Collins (Joe.Collins@uky.edu).

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA)

HWA infestations occur in 30 counties throughout eastern Kentucky. The counties include Bell, Breathitt, Carter, Clay, Elliott, Fayette, Floyd, Harlan, Jackson, Johnson, Knott, Knox, Laurel, Lawrence, Lee, Leslie, Letcher, Madison, Martin, McCreary, Menifee, Morgan, Owsley, Perry, Pike, Powell, Rockcastle, Rowan, Whitley and Wolfe.

Infestations occur on private, non-profit, state and federal lands with treatment occurring on each of these property types. The agencies and organizations are TNC, KY Natural Lands Trust, Division of Forestry, Division of Water, Dept of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Nature Preserves Commission, University of Kentucky, Eastern Kentucky University, Cumberland Gap NP, Big South Fork NRR, and the Daniel Boone NF. Bell and Harlan Counties have areas with trees approaching mortality due to HWA.

HWA continues to spread throughout the hemlock range.

There is hemlock decline in some areas with HWA contributing to this condition. Overall, hemlocks in many areas still appear healthy. However, infestation levels are quickly increasing. With added environmental stresses, uniform hemlock decline due to HWA is likely in the very near future.

KDF provides presentations and training regularly for the public and state personnel. These occur in collaboration with other state agencies, extension offices, public groups and universities.

Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB)

ALB is not known to be in Kentucky. It is within 10 miles of the state line in Ohio. Many calls and site visits have occurred due to public concern. Most site visits are made by extension agents in the northernmost counties. The areas in Ohio known to have ALB have been a source of recreational firewood brought to Kentucky parks over the years.

Thousand Cankers Disease (TCD)

TCD has not been found in Kentucky. No significant walnut decline has been noticed or reported. Quarantine establishment is being discussed, but it has not yet been implemented.

Diseases

The University of Kentucky Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab reports no unusual occurrence of pathogens.

Invasive Plants

KDF in collaboration with the KY-EPPC is increasing its invasive plant outreach in the Kentucky. Grant funded projects which included local outreach have been completed with Olmsted Conservancy and Jefferson Memorial Forest near Louisville as well as Bernheim Forest.

Drought

Drought effects are those seen by dry conditions from previous years.

Forest Health Assistance in Kentucky

<p>Kentucky Division of Forestry 627 Comanche Trail Frankfort, KY 40601 502-564-4496 http://www.nrstate.ky.us/nrepc/dnr/forestry/dnrdof.html</p>	<p>USDA Forest Service Southern Region, State & Private Forestry Forest Health Protection 200 W.T. Weaver Road Asheville, NC 28804 828-257-4320 http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/foresthealth/</p>
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