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WORKING WOODLANDS

Healthy Forests, New Revenue

The Nature Conservancy has a new program called Working Woodlands, which offers forest landowners opportunities to ensure sustainable forest management while generating revenue from improved timber management and from the growing carbon market. The Nature Conservancy provides three key services for landowners in the program, without cost. Landowners can participate in this highly flexible program by choosing any or all of these three services.

KEY SERVICES

Carbon Credit Revenue: The Nature Conservancy connects the property to verified carbon markets, generating new income for the landowner.

Forest Certification: The Nature Conservancy develops a forest management plan and enrolls the property in a forest certification program that ensures forest sustainability. In some cases, this enables access to higher-priced premium wood markets for timber harvested from the property.

Working Forest Conservation Easement (Agreement): The Nature Conservancy applies a working forest conservation easement to the property, ensuring long-term conservation.

HOW DO CARBON MARKETS WORK?

Trees capture carbon from the carbon dioxide in the air as they produce oxygen. An acre of mature forest can capture more than a metric ton of carbon every year. Because scientists and economists can quantify the carbon-capturing power of forests, wooded properties enrolled in carbon markets can sell carbon credits to businesses and individuals seeking to offset their carbon dioxide emissions.

The Conservancy provides landowners with turnkey services to enroll their property in the Working Woodlands program. In return for a minority share of carbon revenue, the Conservancy will cover all project development costs and will market the carbon to the best buyer. The landowner retains all timber revenues.

LANDOWNER BENEFITS

- Flexibility in tailoring a program that matches your individual needs.
- No outlay of money required from the landowner.
- Forest and carbon inventory.
- Ten-year certified forest management plan.
- 100 percent of all certified wood and wood biomass revenues stay with the landowner.
- Additional income from the sale of verified carbon credits.



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A TIMBER-FALLER WORKS IN A SUSTAINABLY MANAGED FOREST. © CHRIS CRISMAN

ONE FAMILY'S EXPERIENCE

John Shafer was 106 years old and co-owned a gorgeous piece of forested property in White County, Tennessee. The land had been in the family lumber business since the 1940s.

Over the years, Mr. Shafer always took care to harvest trees sustainably on the property. "We are interested in the long-term management of this forest," says Shafer.

In 2016, Mr. Shafer, his daughter, and her husband enrolled their property in The Nature Conservancy's Working Woodlands program.

"We were looking to keep the property undeveloped and intact," Shafer says. But the family also needed the property to continue to produce income.

"This agreement protects our land forever. I highly recommend Working Woodlands to forest owners."

— REBECCA TUUK

Working Woodlands ensures Mr. Shafer's forest will be preserved in perpetuity while his family can continue to generate income from timber and carbon credits.

"This agreement protects our land forever," says his daughter, Rebecca Tuuk. "I highly recommend Working Woodlands to forest owners."

PARTNERING WITH THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

When you work with The Nature Conservancy, you are partnering with the largest conservation organization in the world. The Conservancy has a successful track record with Working Woodlands, with more than 40,000 acres enrolled in the program nationally as of 2017.

Experience: The Nature Conservancy has enrolled more than 200,000 acres of carbon projects worldwide and has been involved with Forest Stewardship Council certification for more than a decade.

Track Record: The Nature Conservancy has preserved more than 119 million acres of special places worldwide.

Access to Experts: The Conservancy brings highly skilled partners to every project, such as premium carbon buyers, carbon project managers, and other conservation experts.

Reputation: When you partner with The Nature Conservancy, you are associating with a highly trusted nonprofit with a stellar performance record and an impeccable reputation.

Accountability: The Nature Conservancy is highly rated by charity watchdog organizations, including the Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance and Charity Navigator, and has been named one of the World's Most Ethical Companies five years in a row (2013-18).

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