Welcome to “Forests Matter: Protecting Water Quality and Affecting People Where They Live”

A training provided by the New Jersey Division of the Allegheny Society of American Foresters
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Cook Campus Center, New Brunswick, NJ
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What is a forester?

- Someone who practices forestry
What is Forestry? A movement!

- “the science, art, and business of creating, managing, and conserving forests and associated resources in a sustainable manner to meet desired goals, needs, and values” – Helms et al, Dictionary of Forestry, 1998 ed.
- Foresters do not dictate the goals, the landowner does
- Foresters do not dictate the needs, the forest does
- Foresters do not dictate the values, society does
- Foresters do find solutions at the intersection of those opportunities. And it isn’t easy.
Why Forestry?

- In America, Forestry was a direct response to the intense, thoughtless, unregulated, and unsustainable cutting/clearing of forests during the Second Industrial Revolution (1870-1914).
- Early foresters brought the scientific methods of forest management from France (Pinchot) and Germany (Schenck and others).
- Why did Forestry take hold in America and its seemingly limitless forests? The effects on water quality from overcutting!
Before Forestry

“The Drowned Lands” by Seneca Ray Stoddard, taken near Tupper Lake, NY, 1888
After Forestry

A property certified by the American Tree Farm System, by Charlie Newlon, Warren County, NJ, 2010
Before Forestry

White Mountains, photo courtesy Forest History Society, New Hampshire, c.1907
After Forestry

A property certified by the American Tree Farm System, by Charlie Newlon, Atlantic County, NJ, 2009
Before Forestry

“Subdivision”, courtesy University of Utah
After Forestry

Photo courtesy International Society of Arboriculture
Points to Ponder Today...

- We need more Forestry, not less of it
- We need more Forestry in New Jersey, specifically!
- How do we make sure that we don’t take good water quality for granted?
- What can we as foresters (yes, you are a forester!) do to improve or maintain water quality?
- What are emerging best practices?