

# ARE THERE LAWS THAT PROTECT OUR FORESTS?

In 1971, Oregon became the first state to pass a comprehensive law to regulate forest practices and help safeguard water, fish and wildlife habitat, soil and air. The rules of the Oregon Forest Practices Act are continually reviewed and updated to keep pace with the most current scientific research.

Here are a few of the most important requirements:



## REFORESTATION

Landowners must complete replanting within two years after harvest. Within six years, the harvest area must contain healthy trees that can outgrow competing grass and brush on their own.

## PROTECTION OF WATER AND STREAMS

Timber harvesting, road building and the use of chemicals are restricted close to streams in order to protect fish and safeguard the source of much of Oregon's drinking water.

## PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE HABITAT

Live trees, snags and fallen logs must be left after harvest to provide wildlife habitat.

## LIMITS ON CLEARCUTS

A clearcut cannot be more than 120 acres. Clearcuts within 300 feet of each other cannot total more than 120 acres on the same ownership.

**Oregon was the first state in the nation to enact comprehensive forest protection laws.**



Learn more about the Forest Practices Act at the Oregon Department of Forestry website: [www.oregon.gov/odf](http://www.oregon.gov/odf)

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