


How, When and Why of Forest Farming

SITE ASSESSMENT WORKBOOK

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Contact Information

Site Location	
Ownership	
Address1	
Address2	
City	
State	
Zip	
County	



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Contact Information

Cooperative Extension	
USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)	
Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)	
US Geological Survey (USGS)	
US Geological Survey (USGS)	
Forest Owners Association	
Chamber of Commerce	
County Clerk (Property deeds)	
Additional Contacts	

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SITE ASSESSMENT WORKBOOK Base Map and Supporting Documents

	Map Checklist	Source	Date
A	Base Map¹		
	Property Map		
	Road Map		
	Topographic Map		
	Soil Survey Map		

¹ Keep a master copy of the Base Map. Make any changes to paper or digital copies.

	Photograph Checklist	Source	Date
A	Aerial Photograph		

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Land Use Worksheet

Resources	
Online	
Print	
Human Resources	

Make additional copies to include all zones. Indicate location on Base Map¹.

Zone	Historical Land Use
1	
2	
3	
4	

¹ Keep a master copy of the Base Map. Make any changes to paper or digital copies.

Insert	Reference Page
Map A	Base Map



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Land Use Worksheet

Make additional copies to include all zones. Indicate location on Base Map¹.

Zone	Current Land Use	Obstructions
1		
2		
3		
4		

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Insert	Reference Page
Map A	Base Map

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Climate Worksheet

Resources	
Online	
Print	
Human Resources	

	Historical Summaries												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg
Minimum Temperature													
Number of Cloudy Days													
Relative Humidity													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Precipitation													

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Climate Worksheet

Resources	
Online	http://www.usna.usda.gov/Hardzone/ushzmap.html
Print	
Human Resources	

Regional Climatic Data	
Average Number of Frost Free Days (Length of growing season)	
Average Date of Last Spring Freeze	
Average Date of First Fall Freeze	
USDA Plant Hardiness Zone	

Growing Degree Days						
Current Year to Date	Average	Last Five Years (year: GDD)				
		1999	2000	2001	2002	2003

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Microclimate Worksheet

Make additional copies to include all zones. Indicate location on Base Map¹.

Map Location	Slope (%)	Aspect	Exposure	Frost Pocket	Canopy Cover (%)
Zone 1					
Point 1					
Point 2					
Point 3					
Zone 2					
Point 1					
Point 2					
Point 3					
Zone 3					
Point 1					
Point 2					
Point 3					
Zone 4					
Point 1					
Point 2					
Point 3					

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Insert	Reference Page
Map A	Base Map

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Soils Worksheet

Resources	
Online	
Print	
Human Resources	

Make additional copies to include all soil units. Indicate location on Base Map¹

NRCS / SCS Soil Survey			
County			
Map Symbol	Base Map Zones	Soil Type (Map Unit)	Description

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Insert	Reference Page
Map A	Base Map
Map D	Soil Survey Map
Soils A	Map Unit Descriptions

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Soils Worksheet

Make additional copies to include all zones. Indicate location on Base Map¹.

Nutrient Analysis			
Map Location	pH	Organic Matter	Mineral Analysis
Zone 1			
Point 1			
Point 2			
Point 3			
Zone 2			
Point 1			
Point 2			
Point 3			
Zone 3			
Point 1			
Point 2			
Point 3			
Zone 4			
Point 1			
Point 2			
Point 3			

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Insert	Reference Page
Map A	Base Map
Soils B	Soil Nutrient Analysis Results

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Soils Worksheet

Make additional copies to include all zones. Indicate location on Base Map¹.

Physical Properties					
Map Location	Depth	Texture	Moisture	Drainage	Compaction
Zone 1					
Point 1					
Point 2					
Point 3					
Zone 2					
Point 1					
Point 2					
Point 3					
Zone 3					
Point 1					
Point 2					
Point 3					
Zone 4					
Point 1					
Point 2					
Point 3					

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Insert	Reference Page
Map A	Base Map
Soils B	Soil Nutrient Analysis Results

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Vegetation Worksheet

Make additional copies to include all zones. Indicate location on Base Map¹.

Tree & Shrub Inventory					
Map Location	Common Name	Latin Name	Number	Size	Condition
Zone 1					
Point 1					
Point 2					
Point 3					
Zone 2					
Point 1					
Point 2					
Point 3					
Zone 3					
Point 1					
Point 2					
Point 3					
Zone 4					
Point 1					
Point 2					
Point 3					

¹ Keep a master copy of the Base Map. Make any changes to paper or digital copies.

Insert	Reference Page
Map A	Base Map

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SITE ASSESSMENT WORKBOOK Vegetation Worksheet

Make additional copies to include all zones. Indicate location on Base Map¹.

Understory Inventory					
Map Location	Common Name	Latin Name	% Cover	Size	Condition
Zone 1					
Point 1					
Point 2					
Point 3					
Zone 2					
Point 1					
Point 2					
Point 3					
Zone 3					
Point 1					
Point 2					
Point 3					
Zone 4					
Point 1					
Point 2					
Point 3					

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Insert	Reference Page
Map A	Base Map

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Assessment Map

Assessment Map Checklist		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Map Component	Reference Page
	Base Map¹	Map A
Land Use		
	Historic Land Use	
	Current Land Use	
Climate		
	Microclimate data	
Soils		
	Soil Map Unit	
	Nutrient Analysis	
	Physical Soil Properties	
Vegetation		
	Tree Inventory	
	Non-Tree Inventory	

¹ Keep a master copy of the Base Map. Make any changes to paper or digital copies.

Insert	Reference Page
Map A	Base Map



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Crops Worksheet

Make additional copies to include all crop choices.

Crop Pricing and Vendor Comparison			
Potential Crops	Source of Material	Cost / Unit	Shipping Policies & Fees




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Crops Worksheet

Make additional copies to include all crop choices.

Marketing		
Potential Crops	Marketing Outlet	Contact Information



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Crops Worksheet

Resources	
Online	
Print	
Human Resources	

Insert	Reference Page
Map A	Base Map
Assess A	Site Assessment Map
Crop A	Crop Selection Matrix
Crop B	Crop Fact Sheets
Crop C	Catalogs

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Forest Farm Plan

Farm Plan Checklist		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Plan Component	Reference Page
	Base Map ¹	A
	Assessment Map	
Crops		
	Crop Selection	
	Crop Pricing	
	Crop Budget	
	Marketing	

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Insert	Reference Page
Map A	Base Map
Assess A	Site Assessment Map

