**Careers in Forestry**

Careers in this field include professional foresters, forest conservation, forest biologists, forest technicians, forest business administration, and forestry engineers. Forestry careers not only require a love for nature and commitment, but often require at least a four-year degree in forestry education from an accredited forestry program. Forest technicians require a two-year degree from an accredited forestry technical program. There are also forestry conservation degrees that can open doors to careers such as a park ranger.

Online forestry training is also available. This type of forestry education program allows people to pursue and adapt their studies to fit their needs and lifestyle. Again, this must be obtained by an accredited training program. For those merely seeking general information, libraries can be helpful resources. Forests are a vital resource to our environment and our economy. Therefore, it is imperative that [forestry management](https://www.wisegeek.com/what-is-forestry-management.htm) and conservation be practiced.

Anything from fire and disease to changes in climate can affect the livelihood of forests. In addition, wildlife and plants depend on good forest management and proper harvesting techniques help maintain the ecological balance within forests. The recreational and aesthetic values of forests must also be correctly managed to ensure continued enjoyment. Depending on a person’s individual interests and abilities, locating a forestry education program to suit these needs should be easy.

Forestry careers take many forms and provide opportunities to engage in both hands-on and theoretical work. Whether they’re interested in working outside to survey land or propagate forests, using computer mapping programs to monitor forested areas, helping companies make sure they are compliant with environmental regulations, fighting and preventing forest fires or advocating for conservation-focused legislation, students can follow forestry career paths that align with their individual interests, skills and needs. Prospective students can learn about the varied range of careers they can follow with a degree in forestry and take advantage of internships, volunteer opportunities and professional organizations to help them along the way.

Foresters play important roles in land management, conservation and rehabilitation. They plan and help carry out forestry projects, like planting new trees, monitoring and conserving wildlife habitats, choosing and preparing timber plots, assessing current timber value and suppressing forest fires. They may supervise forest and conservation technicians and ensure that projects are completed legally and consciously.

A bachelor’s degree in forestry or a related field, such as agricultural science or environmental science. Foresters may perform a variety of duties and use skills in identification, math, decision-making, short- and long-term planning, mapping, data analysis and physical labor.