

Contact us to enroll today!

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Project Activities

- Mixed hardwood-oak plantations in blocks of 20-80 acres will be developed on recruited landowners' working land.
- Site preparation and planting guidelines will follow USDA-NRCS conservation practice standards (code 612) for tree/shrub establishment.
- Contractors for the project will prepare the site for planting with weed suppression and tillage, if necessary, then plant seedlings.
- Replanting or partial replanting in the second year may be conducted if the survival rate of seedlings planted in the first year is low.
- During the project, the project team will host Extension tours of the project site for natural resource professionals and landowners.



Recruited landowners should allow access to the planting sites for:

- 1 University research team including graduate students, technicians, and postdocs
- 2 Contractors and the necessary equipment for site preparation and planting
- 3 Sample collection such as soil samples for site evaluation and carbon measurements
- 4 Demonstration events and outreach activities including workshops and field trips open to other landowners in the aforementioned watersheds

Landowners should notify the research team if there are any existing or emerging time limitations regarding access to the property (e.g., hunting season). In return, the research team should notify the landowners before any visits to the property.

Developing Climate-smart Commodities from Hardwood Restoration in the Southern Bottomland Region

Serving Arkansas Small Private Landowners

U of A DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH & EXTENSION
University of Arkansas System
ARKANSAS FOREST RESOURCES CENTER

FIVE OAKS AG RESEARCH & EDUCATION CENTER
UNIVERSITY of ARKANSAS AT PINE BLUFF 1873

COLLEGE OF FORESTRY AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

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Services at no Cost to the Landowners

- Forest management educational workshops
- Site visits by professionals to the properties of recruited landowners
- Financial assistance, including seedlings and other necessary materials for the plantation establishment and management
- Development of a forest management plan based on the landowner's objectives (timber products, wildlife habitat, recreation activities, carbon storage, etc.)
- Education and assistance with property management issues

Potential Benefits

- Improved wildlife habitat (e.g., waterfowl)
- Additional revenue from hunting leases
- Financial benefits from timber production in the long-term
- Additional income from carbon storage through a carbon credit program (e.g., American Forest Foundation - Family Forest Carbon)
- Improved ecosystem services (e.g., water quality)
- Increased land value

Objective

This project aims to establish bottomland hardwood (BLH) plantations on the working lands of small/underserved landowners to develop climate-smart commodities for the benefit of the landowners and society in the Red River Valley (RRV) of southwest Arkansas, the Ouachita River Valley (ORV) of southcentral Arkansas, and the Bayou Meto Watershed (BMW) in eastern Arkansas.

The project is funded through a grant awarded by the USDA Climate-smart Program.

Climate-smart forestry on Bottomland Hardwood Regions

An entire team working with you:

The project personnel include a group of experienced scientists and professionals from The University of Arkansas at Monticello (UAM), Arkansas Forest Resources Center of the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture, Texas A&M University (TAMU), the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (UAPB), Five Oaks Ag Research and Education Center (FOAgREC), Arkansas NRCS, University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture Pine Tree Research Station, and Keeping It in The Family (KIITF) Small Farm Program.

One main objective of the project is to assist small/underserved landowners to embrace the ecological and economic benefits of BLH afforestation as a climate-smart practice.

Through a partnership with the KIITF at the UAPB and the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture, we will recruit underserved landowners and disseminate project outcomes to the broader community of landowners.

We are ready and eager to work with You!

