

# NORTHEAST FORESTS

**Dramatic decreases. Climate threatened. Habitat loss.** The Cerulean Warbler is well-known for its brilliant blue streaking, buzzy calls, and as of the past few decades, urgent messages surrounding its population decline. Millions of resident and migratory birds depend on our northeast forests—but these are becoming fragmented or provide poor quality habitat due to invasive species, overabundant deer, and stressors caused by our changing climate. ***Birds need us to help healthier forests take root.***

## WHAT MAKES OUR FORESTS HEALTHY? YOU!

75 percent of northeast forests—millions of acres—are privately owned, and all of these individual forest owners have unique visions for their land. The great thing about forests is that they thrive on variety: successful forest management looks different depending on where you live, and what type of wildlife you wish to support.

The key is working with an Audubon-trained and endorsed consulting forester to develop—and actively implement—a management plan that works for you and your land.

The sooner the better. Birds like the Wood Thrush, American Woodcock, and Canada Warbler are experiencing rapid population declines. If we start creating quality habitat now, we may be able to help them recover. Bonus: Healthy, actively managed forests help people too, by providing critical public health benefits in the form of climate mitigation and watershed protection.

Our northeast forests are green, but they need sustainable stewardship to truly benefit birds, wildlife, and the people that depend on them.



American Woodcock. Photo: Deborah Rivel



Cerulean Warbler. Photo: DJ McNeil/USDA

## Joining Forces for Forest Health

Birds don't abide by state boundaries, so why should our work? We're bringing bird-friendly forestry to new heights and new places across Connecticut, New York, and beyond by:

- Developing and launching a regional forester training and endorsement program.
- Connecting forest landowners in priority areas like the Adirondacks, Catskills, and Lyme Forest Block to trained and endorsed foresters.
- Partnering with businesses that produce forest-dependent products like maple syrup and paper to encourage best practices that help birds and the bottom line.

# FIVE MILLION ACRES FOR THE FUTURE



By working together with private and public partners, Audubon aims to improve five million acres of forest habitat across Connecticut and New York for birds and people—in fact, we’ve already hit the million acre milestone.

## EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Our northeast forests are known for tall, majestic trees. But they lack a diverse mix of open areas for shrubs, seedlings, and saplings to grow. Less diversity means a lack of habitat for wildlife, plus less carbon sequestration, flood control, and watershed protection.

- Audubon is helping foresters, land managers, and land owners connect and take action to create healthier forests. Read our educational guides online or attend an in-person workshop.

## RESTORATION AND CONSERVATION

Across Connecticut and New York, we’re leading and coordinating habitat improvement projects and demo sites to showcase what quality habitat looks like.

- Visit one of our healthy forest habitats in-person. We have demo sites in the Lower Hudson Valley, St. Lawrence Valley, and Adirondacks in New York, at the Sharon Audubon Center in northwestern Connecticut, and more.

## ADVOCACY AND POLICY

Our members have helped win major policy victories around clean energy and climate solutions, and ensured funding for important forest conservation programs.

- Want to stay up-to-date during the legislative session? Sign up online to receive our email alerts.
- Interested in getting involved in-person? Local chapters are doing great work on-the-ground, and they’re all accepting new members!



Prairie Warbler. Photo: Will Stuart

Together with 32 Audubon chapters, over 100,000 members, and countless volunteers and partners, we’re uniting diverse communities in conservation action that makes a big difference—even for the smallest species.

To learn more, visit:

[ct.audubon.org/forest-for-birds](https://ct.audubon.org/forest-for-birds)  
[ny.audubon.org/healthy-forests](https://ny.audubon.org/healthy-forests)