



Why Do I Need Goals for My Land?

Think about why you own your land and some of your favorite activities that you do in your woods (for example, hiking, hunting, wildlife watching, enjoying the peace and quiet). You want to be able to continue to enjoy what makes your land special. Taking some time to set your goals can help guide future decisions that you will make for your land. If you enjoy wildlife and have a goal around creating a place for wildlife to thrive, then there are activities you can do to encourage wildlife on your land, for example ensure you have food, water and shelter for the animals you'd like to see.

How do I Decide on My Goals

On MyLandPlan.org there is a Goals and Activities tool that can help you think about and explore what is important to you about your land. All the information on the site is broken down into five main categories:

- Enjoy it (recreational activities you do on your land)
- Protect it (keeping your land safe from trespassers, natural disasters, and protect special sites in your woods, etc.)
- Make it Healthy (ensuring your woods and the wildlife that live in them)
- Profit from it (earn income from your land)
- Pass it on (pass your land onto the next generation while ensuring

In the tool, you can explore different goals and the activities associated with them. In just a few simple steps, you can set your goals and find activities you can start doing right away!

First step to Set Your Goals, Sign into Your MyLandPlan.org Account

Log in at www.mylandplan.org/user to access your account. On your Land Plan summary page, click the **Goals/Activities** button. You can see the goals and activities you have listed under the basic information (location and acreage) for your land.

My Land

[+ Add a property](#)



HASTINGS HILL

Asheville, NC

Approximate Acreage: 162.35

Goals: 10 | Activities: 6

Upcoming Tasks: 0 | Overdue Tasks: 1

[Delete this property](#)

overview

Map

Tasks

Goals/Activities

Journal

Next step: Select the goals that are important to you

All the goals are organized under five different topics: Enjoy it, Protect it, Make it healthy, Profit from it and Pass it on. Once you see a goal that you like, click on the **+add to my goals** to record your goals. Click on the **⇅ show** to see a list of related activities.

Step 1: Choose a topic (Enjoy it, Protect it, etc.) below to see related goals

Step 2: Click **+ add to my goals** to add this goal to your list

Step 3: Select show arrows to see the activities associated with that goal

Enjoy it Protect it **Make it healthy** Profit from it Pass it on

Goal: Improve water quality

[+ remove from goals](#) [⇅ show](#)

Goal: Increase biodiversity

[+ add to my goals](#) [⇅ show](#)

Goal: Create a place for wildlife to thrive

[+ remove from goals](#) [⇅ show](#)

Goal: Restore native plant species

[+ add to my goals](#) [⇅ show](#)

Goal: Prevent soil erosion

[+ add to my goals](#) [⇅ show](#)

Select activities related to your goals

Related activities are listed under each goal. Some activities are related and can help you achieve several goals. Once you find activities that you'd like to do to reach your goals, then click on the **+ add to list**. See some activities you've already completed? Then click on the **✓ done**.

Click on the Activity title to learn more about the activity and how you do it.

Enjoy it Protect it **Make it healthy** Profit from it Pass it on

Goal: Improve water quality + remove from goals ✕ hide

Activities

- + on list** **✓ done** **Improve the plants and trees along the water on my land**
Riparian buffers are fringes of grass, shrubs and trees along stream banks. They improve water quality by filtering sediment and pollutants in soil runoff, provide shade to keep water cool, stabilize banks and provide important habitat for a wide range of animal species.

Add Task
- + on list** **✓ done** **Minimize the use of pesticides and properly use pesticides when they are necessary**
Pesticides are strong chemicals and must be used very carefully and judiciously to preserve the health of the soil, water, plant and animal species that make up the forest eco-system. Pesticides include chemicals commonly known as herbicides (for use on plants) and insecticides. In many areas a state-issued Pesticide Applicators License is required for large-scale use.

Add Task
- + on list** **✓ done** **Use Integrated Pest Management techniques to counter pests and weeds**
Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a holistic approach that uses a variety of methods and practices to control undesirable pests, plants and invasive species in an environmentally and economically sound way. The goal of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is to protect the health of your woods now and preserve the health of your forest eco-system in the future. IPM is a pest control strategy that uses a variety of complimentary strategies including mechanical and physical devices, genetic, biological or cultural management and chemical techniques to control and prevent undesirables.

Add Task
- + on list** **✓ done** **Visit my local Soil and Water Conservation district or USDA Service Center**
Conservation districts are independent units of state government, responsible for carrying out natural resources stewardship programs at the local level. They can provide you important technical assistance about protecting soil, water, and air and wildlife habitat.

Add Task

Learn more about the activities

Each activity includes a description, links to articles either in the description or in the Advice For This Activity section (Right hand side under the Activity Status) as well as some additional related activities for you to consider. In the Activity Status section on the right, you can also select this activity as either something you'd like to add to list or you can mark it as done for your properties. On the left side, you can also see all the goals that are associated with this activity. Use the button to schedule the steps you will take to complete this activity.

The screenshot shows the 'My Land Plan' website header with the American Forest Foundation logo and navigation links: My Plan, Support Us, About Us, Log out. A search bar is present with the text 'Keyword Search.' Below the header is a dark navigation bar with a green box on the left asking 'What do you want to do with your land?' and buttons for 'Enjoy it', 'Protect it', 'Make it healthy', 'Profit from it', 'Pass it on', 'Find Help', and 'My Plan'. The main content area is divided into three columns:

- THIS ACTIVITY MAY HELP YOU...** with icons and text for: Enjoy it (Improve deer habitat, Improve turkey habitat, Improve wildlife viewing), Protect it, Make it healthy (Create a place for wildlife to thrive), Profit from it, and Pass it on.
- Activity: SET UP TRAIL CAMERAS ON MY LAND** with a description: 'Trail cameras can range in price and functionality so be sure to do your research to find the best one for you.' It includes a 'Next step is finding a good location' section and a 'Regularly check your camera' section. Below is a 'MORE ACTIVITIES TO CONSIDER' list with four items: 'Provide adequate shelter for wildlife', 'Consult a forester', 'Provide adequate food sources for wildlife', and 'Maintain year-round water sources for birds and animals'. A final item is 'Identify the species I would like to see'.
- ACTIVITY STATUS** for 'Turnip Hill' with '+ on list' and 'done' buttons, and an 'Add Task' button. Below is the **ADVICE FOR THIS ACTIVITY** section with links for 'Using Trail Cameras' and 'Camera Maintenance'.