

TREE TIPS

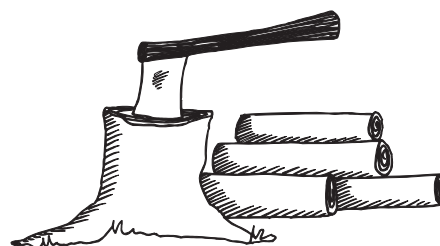
GOODS FROM YOUR WOODS

Do you have a lot of trees on your land?
Would you like to make money from your
woods without selling all your trees?

You can sell “goods from your woods,” such as firewood, plants, and holiday greenery. You can even sell hunting rights. Or you can save money by giving “goods from your woods” as presents or using them at home.

Firewood:

After logging, there may be wood left on the ground that can be cut for firewood. Crooked trees also make great firewood. Save some trees with nests and hollows for wildlife. *Know how to safely use chainsaws and protect your eyes and hearing.*



Pine straw:



Gardeners and landscapers buy pine straw that is clean (no cones or other leaves). Longleaf pine needles are best, but some people also rake other types of pine needles. Rake and bundle the pine straw yourself, or rent your land to someone else for raking.

Craft materials and decorations:

Grapevine is used for baskets and wreaths. Pine garlands, pinecones, holly berries and leaves, running cedar and mistletoe are used for holiday decorations. You can sell many things for crafts, such as dried flowers or seedpods.

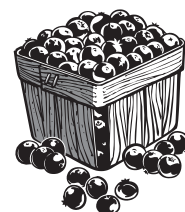


Plants:

Plants from your woods can be used in gardens and yards. You can dig up and sell bamboo, ferns, small dogwood or oak trees, and flowering shrubs. Be careful to keep the plants alive and healthy. *Ask your Cooperative Extension agent about plants that are protected and regulated by law.*

Food:

Pick and preserve berries, fruits, and nuts to sell, eat, or give as presents. *Learn which plants can be eaten, and how to store and process them so that they are safe to eat.*



Charge for hunting on your land:

Hunters may be willing to pay you to hunt in your woods, especially if you have lots of game animals. You should hire a lawyer or consulting forester to write a contract with the hunters to make sure that they follow safety rules, state law, and any rules that you have about when, where, and what they can hunt. You decide who can hunt, and when. *Ask your lawyer or consulting forester about insurance requirements.*



Protect or improve your woods and get paid for it:

Protection of woodlands is important! Sometimes you can get cost share payments from the state or federal government to help pay for environmental improvements, like increasing wildlife habitat in your woods. Sometimes you can a “conservation easement” that will give you a tax break if you agree not to develop your land. *Ask a Cooperative Extension agent about the rules of the different programs.*

Where can you sell your “goods from your woods”?

- Fruit and craft stands
- Farmers’ markets
- Convenience stores
- Flea markets
- Local nurseries
- Landscaping companies



Remember to ask for help as you make plans. Your agricultural agent at the local Cooperative Extension Center or county forester at the Division of Forest Resource can help—look up their numbers in the North Carolina state government pages of your phonebook. You will also need to hire a lawyer or a consulting forester to write a contract if you are going to let others cut firewood, rake pine straw, or hunt on your land.



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