

Forestland Special Assessment General Information

Marion County Assessor's Office
(updated March 2024)

Oregon law provides for this special assessment under Oregon Revised Statute 321 and Oregon Administrative Rule 150-321-0340 which sets down requirements for designation. These requirements fall into three categories:

1. MINIMUM AREA FOR DESIGNATION

Designated Forestland - The area to be designated must have at least **two contiguous acres of trees** in one ownership.

Small Tract Forestland - The area to be designated must meet the Designated Forestland minimum in addition to having at least ten acres of trees in one ownership.

2. SPECIES LIMITED TO MARKETABLE SPECIES

Marketable species means a species of tree that meets the following criteria (OAR 629-610-0050):

- Is ecologically suited to the planting site;
- The species must be capable of producing logs, fiber, or other wood products suitable in size and quality for the production of lumber, sheeting, pulp or other commercial forest products; **and**
- Must be marketable in the foreseeable future.

3. STOCKING REQUIREMENTS

Typically, for Marion County, you must have **200 seedlings** minimum per acre. Contact Oregon Department of Forestry at <https://www.oregon.gov/odf/Pages/index.aspx> or (503) 945-7200 for more information.

Other Resources

Oregon State University Forestry Extension Service
<http://extensionweb.forestry.oregonstate.edu/index.php>

Department of Forestry Reforestation Guide
<http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/Documents/WorkingForests/ReforestationGuide.pdf>

Sources of Native Forest Nursery Seedlings
www.oregon.gov/ODF/Documents/WorkingForests/seedling-catalog.pdf

Reforestation...

Planting a new forest.

Step 1: Planning

Planning to reforest your property should take place before harvest begins. Site conditions will determine which seedling species and seedling size to order.

Legal Requirements

State law requires replanting within 24 months after a clear-cut or heavy partial-cut. Planting requirements range from 200 trees per acre for most of western Oregon, to 100-125 for dry pine sites in eastern Oregon.

Step 2: Ordering

Order seedlings no later than the fall before planting season. Select the proper seedling, species, seed zone, and size for each site. Douglas-fir (western Oregon) and ponderosa pine (eastern Oregon) are common species, but there is a lot of variation. Please contact your local ODF office for information specific to your site.

Step 3: Planting

Once the site is prepared and the seedlings have been ordered, planting can take place from December through March (later for snow-bound sites). Proper handling of seedlings from the nursery through planting is critical, as is the planting technique. **Plant more than the minimum number of trees per acre to allow for seedling losses.**

Reforestation Crews can be hired to reforest your property. Contact your local ODF office for a list of local crews.



Step 4: Maintaining

Inspect the seedlings each year to ensure that they are alive and are free-to-grow. Vegetation control and additional tree planting may be necessary for the next 5 years.

