

State of Forest-based Industries

The forest-based industries in the State of Massachusetts represented 6 percent of the manufacturing sector's annual payroll and represents 7 percent of the manufacturing sector's employment.

	Annual Payroll (Thousand Dollars)	Employment
Forest-based Industry*	\$891,941	19,911
Total Manufacturing	\$15,022,399	283,141

Source: Census Bureau 2006

* Forest-Based Industries consists of all industries that use wood as a part of the finished product.

Project Spotlight

During the last 4 years of the Wood Education and Resource Center's activities, the Center provided \$99,523 that was matched with \$199,541 from partners for three projects. A brief summary of a project follows:

Project Title:

The Eastern Hardwood Forest Region Woody Biomass Energy Opportunity



WOOD EDUCATION
AND RESOURCE CENTER

The Wood Education and Resource Center (WERC) is administered by the Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry of the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

WERC's mission is to facilitate

networking and information exchange with the forest products industry, in order to enhance opportunities that sustain forest products production. WERC's programs support managerial and technical innovation that keep businesses competitive, and provide state-of-the-art training, technology transfer, and applied research. The center consists of offices, training facilities, and a rough mill in Princeton, WV, and serves the 35 States in the eastern hardwood region of the United States.

WWW.NA.FS.FED.US/WERC/



Grant Number: 06-DG-300

The project examined, from an economic perspective, the opportunities to convert woody biomass within the 35 states in the Eastern Hardwood Forest Region (EHFR) into fuel for energy applications. It explored the opportunities for using a domestic alternative energy source to reduce the dependence on imported petroleum. As an alternative energy source, woody biomass was considered to have a favorable "carbon-neutral" greenhouse gas emission profile. Additionally, the project provided an educational overview of the market as it exists currently and serves as a baseline reference resource for other targeted studies in woody biomass energy.

Detailed information about these projects can be found at the WERC website location: <http://www.na.fs.fed.us/werc/projects.shtm>.



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