

Stewardship Notes

Indiana Division of Forestry



After A Harvest

Following a harvest, it is recommended that you reinvest a portion of the income received from the timber sale back into your woodland. This reinvestment might take the form of timber stand improvement (TSI) and may be eligible for cost share assistance. The objectives of this work are as follows:

- To improve and complete the openings created by the harvest. This will encourage the sprouting and growth of future crop trees needing full sunlight to become established.
- To remove low value trees that are competing with the potentially more valuable trees for space, water and sunlight. By removing these trees, the remaining trees will be able to grow at an accelerated rate under less competitive conditions.
- To remove grapevines. Grapevines can greatly restrict the growth of trees or kill them. Some vines can be left along the woods edge or other locations to provide a food source and habitat for wildlife.
- To eliminate culls and severely damaged trees. This allows room for the growth of higher quality trees. Some of these culls may be left if they are providing wildlife den sites.
- To eliminate soil erosion. Most soil erosion after a harvest occurs on roads used to skid and haul logs. These can be easily stabilized by smoothing and proper placement of water diversions. Seeding and mulching may be necessary on steep slopes and exposed road sections.
- Because the hardwood forests of Indiana regenerate very rapidly on their own, it is usually not necessary to plant any trees. The exception to this rule, however, is if you want to grow a species like oak or walnut and there is no natural regeneration present.

Contact your district forester for further information on implementing these practices. Applications for cost share assistance are available at your county Farm Services Agency (FSA) office, or from your district forester