

GROSSMAN FORESTRY COMPANY Consulting Foresters

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## PRESS RELEASE - 7/08/05

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## **Grossman Forestry Tree Farm Group receives Certificate of Conformance**

The Grossman Forestry Tree Farm Group received a certificate of conformance to the American Forest Foundation (AFF) Standards for Sustainability on 7/7/05. The certificate was issued following an independent audit conducted by Steve Ruddell with Forecon, Inc. (Falconer, New York). According to Mr. Ruddell, The Grossman Forestry Tree Farm Group has well-defined procedures, and the Group Members are in full conformance with and are consistently applying the AFF Standards for Sustainability. The charter group encompasses 19 landowners covering over 42,000 acres in Michigan. According to the Group Manager, Gerald Grossman plans are in place to increase the acres in the Group to 100,000 acres within the next 24 months.

**The Grossman Forestry Tree Farm Group** offers landowners an efficient way to show their commitment to long term sustainable forestry. It also shows forest products companies, forest products consumers, and government agencies that the Group members are dedicated to sustainable forest management practices.

The American Tree Farm System Group Certification process is an internationally recognized system to certify sustainable forest management. The four pillars for the Tree Farm System are Water, Wildlife, Recreation, and Wood. According to Bob Simpson, Senior Vice President, Forestry Programs, American Forest Foundation, "Group certification continues to demonstrate to the forestry community that there is a way to economically, efficiently, and credibly certify groups of small family forest owners in the United States, keeping them competitive with continually increasing certified forest lands around the world."

GROSSMAN FORESTRY COMPANY is a privately owned forestry consulting firm that assists Michigan's private landowners with forestry and wildlife management. The company currently employs seven full-time consulting foresters with secretarial support. Working as agents of the landowner, we provide the following services based upon the landowner's goals: stewardship plan writing, timber sale administration, forest boundary location, forest and wildlife management plans, timber market analysis, timber/land appraisal, and aerial photograph interpretation (every year we work with hundreds of clients to help them enjoy their properties). Our services are provided throughout Michigan's Eastern Upper & Northern Lower Peninsulas. As consulting foresters, we have an obligation to use our knowledge and provide the best possible service to Michigan's private landowners.

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