

ALGONQUIN PROVINCIAL PARK FORESTRY FACTS

1. The total area of Algonquin Provincial Park is 7,635 km² including water. Less than 55% of that total area is available for forest harvesting on a periodic basis. Forest management activities are a permitted use only in the *recreation/utilization* zone. These activities are **not** allowed in wilderness, nature reserves, historical, natural environment or development zones or reserves for shorelines, portages, trails, etc.
2. The level of harvesting is based on what is sustainable over the long term. The wood supply available to industry is a function of sustainable forestry practices and is not influenced by industrial demand. Forest management plans are revised every ten years and supply levels are adjusted to reflect changes in the forest.
3. Harvesting activities take place on approximately 1% of the forested area of the park in a given year.
4. More than 95% of harvesting is done with partial cutting systems (selection or shelterwood). These systems are based on removing designated trees and retaining better quality trees which are uniformly spaced for seed and shelter and establishing natural regeneration. The new forest develops under the canopy of the existing forest whereby forest cover is maintained at all times. Species such as maple, beech, yellow birch, white pine, and hemlock are managed with these systems.
5. Less than 5% of harvesting is a form of clearcutting with standards. These areas help to maintain the natural diversity of the forest while creating the early successional habitat favoured by wildlife such as the white-throated sparrow. Species such as poplar, jack pine, red pine, and white birch require open sunlight conditions to germinate and grow new seedlings.
6. Algonquin Provincial Park supplies approximately 45% of the industrial wood supply from Crown land in the Southern Region (south of North Bay). Provincially, the Park supplies approximately 21% of the sugar maple and 33% of the white pine volumes.
7. This wood supply supports mills in communities such as Huntsville, Whitney, Madawaska, Killaloe, Pembroke, Eganville and Palmer Rapids. There are nine mills receiving part, or most, of their supply from Algonquin Provincial Park on a regular basis while another 15-20 mills receive periodic supplies.
8. There are over 285 people employed in Algonquin woods activities and over 4,000 employed in the mills and tree nurseries. In 2023/2024, sales values of forest products by the Algonquin Forestry Authority (AFA) were \$16.8 million. Contractors engaged from communities in the region were paid \$18.1 million, and AFA spent \$2.4 million on forest renewal operations. The AFA had a net income of \$108,056 in 2023/24. The Algonquin Forestry Authority is financially self-sufficient with no cost to the taxpayers and works on a not-for-profit cost-recovery basis.
9. Based on a 2023/2024 harvest level of 319,789 m³, the Algonquin Park Forest contributed \$269 million* to the Ontario economy in terms of value added.

**Estimated from Natural Resources Canada State of Canada's Forest Report, 2015.*

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