

Clean water grows on these trees.

Okay, not technically, but forests do provide the cleanest water of any land use to keep drinking water safe and reliable.

TOTAL SOUTHERN WATER SUPPLY

State & Private forests provide

44.3%

of the total water supply.

That's equal to **97.8 trillion gallons.**

HOW MUCH LIQUID IS THAT?
That's enough water to fill a stack of five gallon buckets that would extend all the way to the sun & back **24 TIMES.**



SOUTHERN FORESTS



POPULATION SERVED

ALL FORESTS
113 MILLION PEOPLE



STATE AND PRIVATE FORESTS
57 MILLION PEOPLE



FEDERAL FORESTS
56 MILLION PEOPLE



THE CHALLENGE

Population is expected to increase more than **30%** over the next **40 years** compared to 2012 levels.

2052

THE THREAT

UP TO 23 MILLION ACRES of our forests are forecasted to be converted to other uses by **2060.**



2012

POPULATION INCREASE OF 30%

HEALTHY FORESTS ARE CRITICAL TO DRINKING WATER

Healthy, managed forests provide the cleanest water of any land use, and help keep drinking water safe, reliable, and affordable.

TO SUM THINGS UP...



FOREST STEWARDSHIP AND BMPs

Foresters work with landowners to develop forest stewardship plans and implement Best Management Practices that protect soil and water resources.



“Our investments in healthy forests today lead to higher quality drinking water in our communities tomorrow.”

David LaFrance, CEO of American Water Works Association
Learn more by watching our video! <https://bit.ly/3f6jTK0>

DRINKING WATER DEPENDS ON HEALTHY FORESTS

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Liu, Ning; Dobbs, G. Rebecca; Caldwell, Peter V.; Miniati, Cheky Ford; Bolstad, Paul V.; Nelson, Stacy; Sun, Ge. 2020. Quantifying the role of State and private forest lands in providing surface drinking water supply for the Southern United States. Gen. Tech. Rep. SRS-248. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 405 p. Caldwell, P., Muldoon, C., Ford-Miniati, C., Cohen, E., Krieger, S., Sun, G., McNulty, S., and Bolstad, P.V. 2014. Quantifying the role of National Forest system lands in providing surface drinking water supply for the Southern United States. General Technical Report SRS-197. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 135 p.