

Release

from the South Carolina Forestry Commission



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Remember South Carolina's state forests at tax time

Help support forest recreation with a charitable check-off on your return

The South Carolina Forestry Commission encourages citizens to make a charitable contribution to the SC State Forests Fund on their tax returns.

Taxpayers have the opportunity to support the [five state forests](#) – Harbison, Manchester, Poe Creek, Sand Hills and Wee Tee – by making a check-off contribution on their state tax returns using Form I-330.

South Carolina's state forest system receives no state funding and relies solely on timber receipts, pine straw sales and recreational permit revenue for its operating funds. "We're completely self-supporting, so any money we receive from the check-off program goes directly back into these forests and facilities," said Mike Shealy, SCFC state lands manager.

The State Forests Fund check-off program has raised almost \$80,000 in the five years since its inception, with all of the money used to make improvements and repairs that directly benefit visitors and enhance their experience on state forest lands. Recent enhancements include a new Firewise demonstration area, fishing pier, bike trails and solar panels.

Not only do the state forests support themselves, but they also provide funding to school systems in the counties that host them, giving nearly \$500,000 to school districts in 10 counties last year alone.

How To Give To The SC State Forests Fund:

1. Enter the amount of your donation on Line 28 of your individual income tax form, S.C. Form 1040.
2. Then enter the amount of your donation on Line 15 of S.C. Tax Form I-330, then again on Line 17.
3. Attach [S.C. Tax Form I-330](#) to your tax filing or give it to your professional tax preparer.

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In addition to being recreational hotspots for hiking, biking, hunting, camping and horseback riding, the Commission's state lands are demonstration forests for ecological responsibility and productivity. The state's largest manufacturing industry in terms of jobs and wages, forestry generates an \$18.6 billion impact on South Carolina's economy.



Visitors to Sand Hills State Forest enjoy the fishing pier built from funds generated by the SC State Forests Fund check-off program.

Did you know...?

The State Forests pay 25 percent of their gross proceeds from the sale of timber, pine straw, rentals and other fees to the counties that contain them. These funds are designated for general school purposes.