The Vermont Farm & Forest Viability Program, a program of the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, provides opportunities for Vermont forestland owners to receive in-depth, custom-tailored succession planning and related technical assistance.

Participant forestland owners work directly with succession planning advisers at one of our partner organizations, Vermont Woodlands Association (VWA), Upper Valley Land Trust (UVLT) or others, to develop sound ownership succession plans for their woods. In some cases, Viability Program advisers at VWA or UVLT will engage a team of legal, financial, and/or forestry specialists to add their expertise. Participants often have established relationships with professionals in these areas, and Viability Program advisers can work with these professionals or bring on others, as needed.

The Viability Program is primarily a business planning program for farms and forest products businesses; as such, we handle sensitive information with discretion. While enrollment in the program is not confidential, all forestland succession planning work done through our program, including conversations, meetings, and deliverables are covered under our Confidentiality Policy. Details pertaining to participating landowners and other stakeholders, as well as details of the succession process will not be used in any program materials without written permission.

ELIGIBILITY

Participating landowners must own forestland in Vermont.

ENROLLMENT

There is a $75 fee to enroll in the Vermont Farm & Forest Viability Program. Please submit the $75 enrollment fee check with your application. We will return your check if we are not able to enroll you in the program.

INSTRUCTIONS

1) Complete the attached application form,
2) Enclose a $75 check or money order made out to VHCB, and
3) Mail to: Vermont Farm & Forest Viability Program
   VHCB
   58 E. State Street
   Montpelier, VT 05602

Please contact Mariah Noth, at 828-1098 or mariah@vhcb.org with any questions.
FORESTLAND SUCCESSION PLANNING
APPLICATION

A. APPLICANT INFO:

First Name: ______________________ Last Name: ______________________

Mailing Address: ______________________________________________________

Town: ___________________________ State: ________ Zip: __________________

Telephone: _______________ Mobile: _______________ Email: _______________

How did you hear about the program? ______________________________________

B. FORESTLAND INFO:

Location (i.e. E911 address or Town & Road): ______________________________

Total Acres: ________________________ Forested Acres: ______________________

Ownership Structure: ☐ Sole Proprietorship  ☐ Partnership  ☐ LLC  ☐ Corporation ☐ Other (please describe):

Is the property enrolled in Use-Value Appraisal (“Current Use”)? ______________

Is any part of the forestland conserved? ☐ Yes  ☐ No  If yes, how many acres? ______________

What entity holds the conservation easement? ______________________________

Is there any public access on the property? ☐ Yes  ☐ No

Are any of the following attributes present on the property?:

☐ Rare, Threatened or Endangered Species  ☐ Riparian Areas  ☐ Vernal Pools  ☐ Forested Wetlands

C. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – Please type responses and attach them on a separate sheet.

1) Please describe the forested property, including its ownership history, built structures and ecological features, (e.g. hunting camps, sugarhouses, wetlands, etc.).

2) Please describe how the forest is used (e.g. for timber harvesting, recreation, wildlife, etc.).

3) Please list other individuals (e.g. co-owners, family members, potential successors) involved in the succession planning process.

4) What are your goals for participating in succession planning?