

**NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT (EXCERPT)**  
**Act 451 of 1994**

**324.52501 Definitions.**

Sec. 52501. As used in this part:

- (a) "Breast height" means 4.5 feet from highest ground at the base of the tree.
- (b) "Certification" means a process where an independent third party organization assesses and evaluates forest management practices according to the standards of a certification program resulting in an issuance of a certificate of compliance or conformity.
- (c) "Certification program" means a program that develops specific standards that measure whether forest management practices are consistent with principles of sustainable forestry.
- (d) "Conservation" means the wise use of natural resources.
- (e) "Diameter class specifications" means a classification of trees based on the diameter at breast height.
- (f) "Plan" means the forestry development, conservation, and recreation management plan for state forests as provided for in section 52503.
- (g) "Reforestation" means adequate stocking of forestland is assured by natural seeding, sprouting, suckering, or by planting seeds or seedlings.
- (h) "Residual basal area" means the sum of the cross-sectional area of trees 4 inches or greater in diameter measured at breast height left standing within a stand after a harvest.
- (i) "State forest" means state land owned or controlled by the department that is designated as state forest by the director.
- (j) "Sustainable forestry" means forestry practices that are designed to meet present and future needs by employing a land stewardship ethic that integrates the reforestation, managing, growing, nurturing, and harvesting of trees for useful products with the conservation of soil, air and water quality, wildlife and fish habitat, and visual qualities.

**History:** Add. 1995, Act 57, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995;—Am. 2004, Act 125, Imd. Eff. May 28, 2004.

**Popular name:** Act 451

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