

2c Managed Forest Land Tax Class

The State of Minnesota recently passed a new classification for lands - **the 2c Managed Forest Land** classification that provides a **reduced class rate of 0.65 percent** to qualifying properties. To reduce your 2010 property taxes, you'll need to complete the required paperwork by May 1, ²⁰¹⁰₂₀₀₉.

Who is eligible?

- Unplatted real estate that is rural in character, is not used for agricultural purposes, and is not improved with a structure (a minor ancillary, non residential structure does not disqualify a property from this classification).
- The property must be no less than 20 acres and limited to 1,920 acres.
- The property must also have a registered Woodland Stewardship Management Plan. The Woodland Stewardship Management Plan would need to be written by a DNR approved forest management plan writer within the last 10 years.
- The property cannot be enrolled in other tax programs: the Sustainable Forest Incentive Act (SFIA), CRP, CREP, RIM or the Green Acres Program.

Requirements:

Landowners must complete the 2c Managed Forest Land Application (CR-2cMFL-08) Form. The form is available at the county assessor's office. The application form can also be found online at the Minnesota Department of Revenue website at <http://www.taxes.state.mn.us>.

The application is a very simple form with three sections that you will need to provide the basics: Landowner Name, Address and County. You will also need to attach information for each parcel of land you wish to enroll, and you'll need to include your Property Identification Number (PID) and attach a copy of your property tax statement for each parcel. You'll need the total acreage of each parcel and the number of acres to be enrolled. In addition, you will need to include a copy of the forest management plan (including the map!) that encompasses all of the land/acres developed or updated by a DNR-approved plan writer within the last 10 years.

What about my deer shack?

The Minnesota Department of Revenue has defined "minor ancillary nonresidential structures" as sheds or other primitive structures, the aggregate size of which are less than 300 square feet that add minimal value and are not used residentially; provided that the occasional overnight use for hunting or other outdoor activities shall not preclude a structure from being considered a minor, ancillary structure.

If any structure or group of structures totals 300 or more square feet, or if any structure is used residentially on more than an occasional basis, or if there is an improved building site that provides water, sewer or electrical hook ups for residential purposes, the property must be split classed according to the appropriate use or uses of the property.

A property that is improved with a structure that is not a minor ancillary nonresidential structure must be split-classified, with at least 10 acres being assigned to, and centered on, the structure. If a property must be split-classified and the resulting forest land is less than 20 acres, the property is not eligible for the 2 c Managed Forest Tax Class program.

The Minnesota Dept. of Revenue envisions instances when parcels containing forest land will have more than one use. In these circumstances, the land covered under the forest management plan should split-classified as 2c (if application has been made) and the remaining land should be classified according to its use. For example: A 360 acre parcel containing 200 acres of agricultural land and 160 acres of forest covered under a forest management plan should be split-classified, with 200 acres being classified as agricultural and 160 acres being classified as 2c Managed Forest Land (if application has been made).