Carbon Definitions

**Carbon pool**: a component of the forest that can gain or lose carbon over time

**Carbon storage**: the amount of carbon retained in a forest and/or carbon pool

**Carbon sequestration**: the process by which trees and plants use carbon dioxide and photosynthesis to store carbon as biomass

**Units**: Forest carbon is typically expressed in US tons per acre or metric tons (1 metric ton = 1.10 US tons)

Quick Facts on Forest Carbon

- Minnesota has 17.4 million acres of forests and is 34% forested.
- Minnesota forest carbon stocks have increased by 8% from 1990 to 2019.
- Average carbon density in aboveground trees across Minnesota forests is 15.5 US tons per acre.
- In Minnesota, forests, urban trees, and harvested wood products:
  - Remove 14% of all CO₂ emissions in the state. (Across the US, this value is also 14%.)
  - Store the equivalent of 50 years of all CO₂ emissions produced in the state.