**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**

- Missouri has 15.4 million acres of forests and is 35% forested.
- Missouri forest carbon stocks have increased by 10% from 1990 to 2019.
- Average carbon density in aboveground trees across Missouri forests is 22.5 US tons per acre.
- In Missouri, forests, urban trees, and harvested wood products:
  - Remove 8% of all CO₂ emissions in the state. (Across the US, this value is 14%.)
  - Store the equivalent of 30 years of all CO₂ emissions produced in the state.

**Sources:**
- Values of carbon by ownership and forest type obtained from USDA Forest Service, Forest Inventory and Analysis Program using the EVALIDator web-application, version 1.8.0.01, years 2007-2019 (Accessed 31 Aug 2020).