**Quick Facts on Forest Carbon**

- West Virginia has 12.1 million acres of forests and is 79% forested.
- West Virginia forest carbon stocks have increased by 14% from 1990 to 2019.
- Average carbon density in aboveground trees across West Virginia forests is 35.9 US tons per acre.

- In West Virginia, forests, urban trees, and harvested wood products:
  - Remove 16% of all CO₂ emissions in the state. (Across the US, this value is 14%.)
  - Store the equivalent of 45 years of all CO₂ emissions produced in the state.

**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).

**Sources**: