

Permits are required for placing temporary or permanent stream crossing structures, including culverts and bridges. Crossings must be installed under the supervision of a certified individual. Make sure that culverts are well rip-rapped and covered with adequate fill.

Keep heavy equipment, oil and fuel well away from watercourses at all times.

With proper construction and maintenance your woodlot road will be an essential feature of your woodlot.



*For detailed information, please visit the following resources:*

**NS Department of Natural Resources**

[www.gov.ns.ca/natr/woodlot](http://www.gov.ns.ca/natr/woodlot)  
1-866-226-7577 [woodlot@gov.ns.ca](mailto:woodlot@gov.ns.ca)

**Forest Professionals**

- Registered Professional Foresters Association of Nova Scotia [www.rpfans.ca](http://www.rpfans.ca)
- Nova Scotia Forest Technicians Association [www.nsfia.ca](http://www.nsfia.ca)
- Canadian Institute of Forestry [www.cif-ifc.org](http://www.cif-ifc.org)

**Woodlot Owner Organizations**

- Federation of Nova Scotia Woodland Owners [www.fnswo.ca](http://www.fnswo.ca)
- Nova Scotia Landowners and Forest Fibre Producers Association [www.nslffpa.org](http://www.nslffpa.org)
- Nova Scotia Woodlot Owners and Operators Association [www.nswooa.ca](http://www.nswooa.ca)

**Harvesting and Silviculture Contractors**

- Nova Forest Alliance [www.novaforestalliance.com](http://www.novaforestalliance.com)
- Atlantic Master Loggers [www.cwfcf.org](http://www.cwfcf.org)

**Silviculture Assistance**

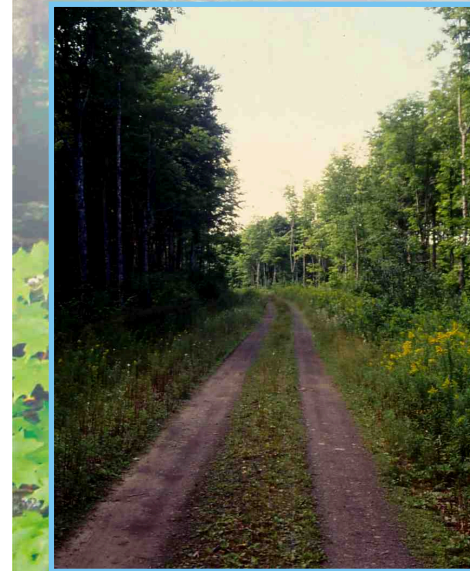
- Association for Sustainable Forestry [www.asforestry.com](http://www.asforestry.com)

**Woodlot Road Assistance**

- Forest Products Association of Nova Scotia [www.fpana.ca](http://www.fpana.ca)

*A Quick Guide to*

**WOODLOT  
ROADS**



FAMILY WOODLOT GUIDE

Good access to your woodlot is a vital step in effective management of your woodlot resources.

Woodlot roads provide a valuable service if you need to harvest wood, fight fires, do silviculture work or grow Christmas trees. A good network of roads will improve your ability to manage your woodlot.



If there are no existing roads on your woodlot, an experienced road builder or forest professional should be consulted. The location of a road is an important consideration. Roads can be expensive to build, and you want to make sure that your woodlot road is in the best possible location.

Begin by walking the woodlot, examining aerial photos and avoiding as many watercourses and wet areas as possible. Once you are absolutely sure of the location, mark the centerline of the road with flagging tape.

Once the centerline of the road location is marked, the sidelines of the road right-of-way should be marked in the same way, but with a differently colored flagging tape than the centerline. A road right-of-way should be at least 15 m (50 ft) in width to allow sunlight to reach the road surface once it is built, and to make space for ditches.



After the right-of-way is cut and the wood removed, the road is ready to be built. Excavators are effective in digging ditches and using the soil material to construct the road bed. Bulldozers can also be used, although some areas adjacent to the road will need to be cleared for push-offs.



Road erosion is a common problem, and can lead to road surface deterioration, silted streams and other runoff problems. Proper ditching technique and shaping and crowning the road can prevent future drainage problems. If possible, roads should be constructed on slight slopes to help the water to move away from the road surface.