

**Conservation Federation of Missouri
2013 Resolutions**

Committee: Forestry

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Call Before You Cut

1 **WHEREAS**, The Call Before You Cut program, encourages the use of a professional forester and a
2 Certified Master Logger or a graduate of the Professional Timber Harvester Program using Best
3 Management Practices (BMPs) before landowners have timber harvested; and,
4 **WHEREAS**, This multi state program started in 2008, funded by a grant from the United States
5 Forest Service and administered by the Missouri Department of Conservation in conjunction with the
6 Missouri Consulting Foresters Association; and,
7 **WHEREAS**, Current advertisement comes from billboards, newspapers, and farm magazines; and,
8 **WHEREAS**, This program promotes sustainable forest practices and ecological integrity by
9 consulting with landowners over the phone and following up with a packet of information containing a
10 list of Missouri consulting foresters and forest management/ timber sale information; and,
11 **WHEREAS**, The economic impact of forest products in Missouri is \$7.3 billion dollars per year; and,
12 **WHEREAS**, There are 15 million acres of forested land in Missouri; and,
13 **WHEREAS**, 82% of Missouri's forest land is owned by private landowners; and,
14 **WHEREAS**, It is estimated that 10% of Missouri landowners utilize a professional forester for
15 management advice; and,
16 **WHEREAS**, 1,028 of 198,000 forest owners who own more than 10 acres have used Call Before You
17 Cut in the state of Missouri; and,
18 **WHEREAS**, This leaves a great majority of landowners who should utilize this free valuable
19 resource to understand the economic and ecological value of their forest: now, therefore, be it
20 **RESOLVED**, That the Conservation Federation of Missouri assembled at the Capitol Plaza Hotel,
21 Jefferson City, MO, this 24th day of February, 2013, urges the Missouri Department of Conservation,

22 Society of American Foresters, United States Forest Service, American Tree Farm System, Missouri
23 Consulting Foresters Association, Missouri Forest Products Association, and the Forest and Woodlands
24 Association of Missouri to continue in support of this valuable program, help advocate, and publicize
25 the need for sustainable forest management.