

**General management practices that can benefit wildlife.**

<b>General practice</b>	<b>Wildlife benefits</b>	<b>Timber management considerations</b>
Protect woodlot from livestock grazing.	Provides increased mast availability, thicker stem density for cover, and a more diverse understory.	Prevents soil compaction, improves vigor and growth rates of trees; provides greater regeneration and species diversity; reduces decay and defects in timber.
Allow shrubs, vines, blackberries, etc. to develop along woods edges (or plant them).	Provides food and cover for wildlife; provides early successional habitat required by many species; provides highly productive habitat (many species live at woodland edge since they require more than one habitat).	Gradual edge reduces wind and drying effects in woods; timber quality is poor along forest edge; therefore, vines and undesirable species have less economic effect.
Allow felled trees to remain along the edge of woodlot.	Provides cover; produces insect sources for wildlife.	Saves time and labor cost to remove; returns nutrients to the soil.
Plant conifers in small blocks (less than 2 acres) of up to 10% of the area – most efficient when established on nonforested, erodible areas; one to two rows of shrubs which provide wildlife foods (dogwood, highbush cranberry, crabapple, hawthorn, redbud, etc.) can be planted adjacent to conifer stand.	Provides cover during harsh weather; provides nesting and roosting habitat for songbirds, owls and hawks; provides food for wildlife.	Provides tree species diversity; prevents soil erosion.