



# Did you know?

# CUTTING TREES CAN HELP WILDLIFE

Young forest habitat grows rapidly, providing food and cover for New Hampshire's wildlife.



When first cut, the young forest offers up flowering herbacious plants, berries and insects, providing food for species such as deer, hare, turkeys and woodcock.



As the forest grows, in two to three years it becomes more diverse, producing more browse, berries and flowers and improved nesting and foraging for a greater diversity of species.



After 10 years, the taller trees begin to shade out many plants, and species diversity declines. Nesting and foraging cover remains excellent for songbirds and small mammals.



At 25 years or more, the young forest has lost much of its diversity and is home to far fewer species of wildlife.



NEW ENGLAND COTTONTAIL



MAGNOLIA WARBLER

Re-growing forests may not look beautiful, but they are a haven of food and habitat for species such as songbirds, moose, deer, bear, snowshoe hare, rabbits and white-footed mice. Red-tail hawks will hunt there, as will fox, coyote, bobcat and lynx.



Patch cuts like those shown at left may look funny from above, but that's where the wild things are! The most beneficial young forest is at least 5 acres in size and makes up 15% of the total habitat.

Wildlife research and management in New Hampshire is funded in part by Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration, a user-pay, user-benefit program supported by your purchase of fishing tackle, firearms, ammunition, archery equipment and motorboat fuels.

