

The NFH Membership Mission:

*Advocacy, Education and Forest Stewardship
Strengthening the Cabin Program through Outreach to Non-Members*

Importance of Organization:

Because the Recreation Residence Program is largely governed by policies developed at the Regional and National levels of the Forest Service, the most effective strategy for maintaining a strong Recreation Residence Program is through organization. Local cabin owners can and should develop local tract associations to better advocate on their local Forest Service Districts and Forests. Local associations can merge into state or regional organizations to enhance representation at the Forest or Regional level. And all cabin owners, tracts and associations can join with the national organization, *the National Forest Homeowners*, to advocate for all cabin owners nationally.

NFH Member Tracts and Associations involve two-way partnerships:

NFH agrees to provide information, perspective, and representative leadership on regional and national Forest Service issues and policies affecting all Recreation Residences. We further agree to offer assistance to local tracts and associations in organizing their tracts and addressing their unique local issues.

Member Tracts agree to keep their members informed of current policies and issues through regular communications, to help NFH solicit active participation and political advocacy when needed and to collect annual dues on NFH's behalf.

Role of the Recreation Residence Program in the 21st Century (a NFH perspective):

- To serve as stewards of National Forest System lands;
- To improve and provide for safety and security on National Forest lands through fire protection programs, neighborhood awareness and education of cabin users and forest visitors;
- To facilitate intensive recreation use at minimal impact on forest lands and ecosystems;
- To provide significant economic contributions and support to local economies and counties;
- To partner with the Forest Service on projects that benefit the Program and forest management;
- To represent and communicate about issues of National Forest development, cabin history and sense of place to other forest visitors; and
- To establish a sense of community among forest users through active support of and involvement in local organizations and programs.

Your NFH membership benefits include:

- Support for **the only national organization** that understands and advocates for recreation residence cabin owners nationwide.
- **A strong voice** with the Forest Service at the Regional and National level and with Congress through the collective power of our membership.
- **Enhanced direct access** to local, regional and national Forest Service personnel through our well-established networks.
- **Printed and online newsletters** with the latest information about the Forest Service and Congress, and NFH activities and issues affecting our national forests and cabin owners specifically.
- Access to member-only information and **Resources** from our staff and on our website.
- **Regular email updates** and action alerts to keep you engaged.
- Opportunities for better **information and education, while spending time with other cabin owners** through NFH conferences and forums.
- The camaraderie of a **like-minded community** where all enjoy their 'cabin in the woods'.