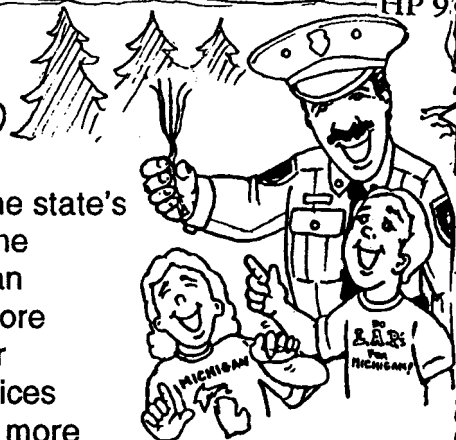




FOREST STEWARDSHIP



Before the European settlers arrived in Michigan, nearly all of the state's 36 million acres of land were covered with forests. Today, due to the concern and management of forest land, or **stewardship**, Michigan forests still cover over 53% of the state's land and are producing more trees per acre than ever before. Forest stewardship is important for people now and in the future. The use of forest management practices has helped Michigan's forests to grow over two and one-half times more wood than is being cut, or **harvested**, each year. **Thinning and planting specially improved trees** are practices which create more room, better growth and more sunlight.

Some people think the Forest Management Division of the Department of Natural Resources is against cutting down all trees. However, tree harvesting practices in Michigan's state-owned forests is a human way of doing what nature will do over time. It also provides wood products for people to use. Different **thinning practices**, which **regenerate the forests** by increasing wood growth, include:

Group Selection

Individual Tree Selection

Shelterwood Cutting

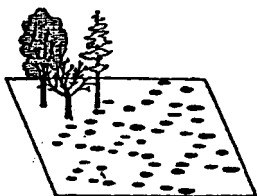
Seed Tree Cutting

Clearcutting

Read the descriptions of the diagrams below. Label each with the correct thinning practice.

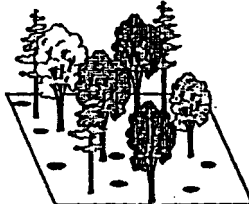
1. _____

- Removes all trees over 1" diameter
- Keeps special trees (ex: animal dens)
- Maximizes sunlight for new growth



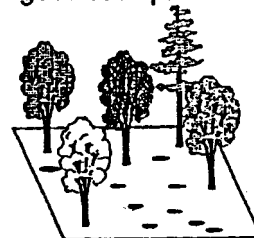
2. _____

- Removes 40-60% of trees
- Partial sunlight for new growth
- Some old trees shelter new growth



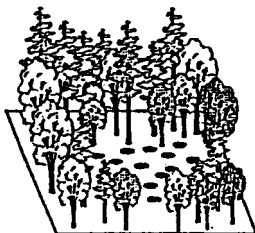
3. _____

- Removes most trees
- Leaves a few, well-spaced good seed producers



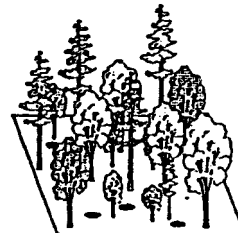
4. _____

- Removes small groups of trees
- Creates 1/4 to 2 acre openings for new growth requiring partial sunlight



5. _____

- Removes individually selected trees
- Removes varied sizes
- Shade-tolerant trees grow in small openings



IT GREW BACK LIKE NEW!

"Michigan natural resource managers have dedicated their lives to make sure that the state's forests will provide resource assets for the future."

CONNECT-IT™