

## **Forestry Assistance Taking Root**

Pathfinders Resource Conservation and Development council recently hired Phil Simmons as its Forestry Consultant for the Total Forestry Program (TFP). Since taking the reins on February 1, Simmons has worked with private landowners to discuss timber sales, tree planting, Timber Stand Improvement projects and discuss other forestry related issues. Simmons, who lives with his family in northern Jefferson County, has over 20 years of experience providing forestry services to landowners across southeast Iowa and northern Missouri.

“Many landowners do not understand the full potential value of their timber land,” says Simmons. “For example, a timber seller is much better off getting competitive bids for their timber instead of agreeing to sell for the price one logger might offer.”

The Total Forestry Program was established by Pathfinders to maximize the production of timber products and increase the overall health of timber resources. The program also helps private landowners maximize on available cost-share to develop a windbreak, tree plantation, or maintain the health of their forest.

Services available from TFP include the development of forest management plans, coordination of timber sales implementing timber stand improvement, timber appraisals, tree planting services, and maintenance on established tree plantations.

For more information about the Total Forestry Program, or to arrange for Phil to speak to your community group or civic organization, call 641-233-7197, email [forestry@iowatelecom.net](mailto:forestry@iowatelecom.net) or visit [www.TFPforestry.com](http://www.TFPforestry.com).