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Comments: Americans have witnessed forest fires in many states and countries recently. We live part-time in MN and this summer we have experienced many days of smoke pollution from Canada and out West. We must be smart, cautious, thoughtful, and environmentally prudent in our approach to handling our forest treasures in GA. It is extremely important to limit cutting trees more than half a mile from the road. Making in-roads to the forest destroys habitats and increases air and noise pollution and does major damage to the forests.
Near my house in MN, the electric company deforests their property on a schedule. Our neighbor personally oversaw, with the electric companies permission, the cutting of trees. Because of his efforts minimal damage was done and regrowth is apparent. Many pines were saved.
In metro areas, subdivisions are created by clearcutting the area. It sickens me to see dirt where beautiful old trees stood. Now more that ever we must be good stewards of our natural resources by restricting timber harvesting to fire adapted forest types, excluding commercial harvesting from GA Mountain Treasures, and refrain from clearcutting areas. Please look at each area separately, thoughtfully and intelligently. Do not take the easy road and destroy what we have. We may not have any second chances with the change in climate!