

# The Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee (SIC)

## IT'S A WAKEUP CALL

I realize that a large percentage of those associated with the PA Forest Products Industry receive the Hardwood Review. But for those who do not as well as for those who may have not taken the time to read the November 3, 2006 Issue, there was an Editorial that warrants our attention. Under the title "A Looming Barrier to European Trade", and with a subtitle of "This Time, Certification Requirements May be For Real", the author presents some very compelling reasons for those forest products companies who are doing business in Europe to pay close attention to what is taking place there, in terms of certification requirements for hardwood lumber. The article warns that failing to do so could result in the loss of future access to large chunks of this market.

Most of us are aware that certification requirements for hardwood lumber have, since the early 1990's, been a more prominent consideration in Europe than here in the United States. Even so, the demands were somewhat relaxed in comparison to where things seem to now be headed. The article points out that "During the last two years, widespread trade of certified hardwood lumber has become increasingly viable in Europe. A higher percentage of Europe's forest area is certified than any area in the world, approximately 58%. Consequently, an estimated 50 - 60% of the softwood lumber and board products traded in Europe are now certified, along with a rapidly growing percentage of European hardwoods. Many distributors and end-users that were committed to purchasing certified products in principle have finally been able to purchase them in practice, and their request for chain-of-custody certificates have surged, as has their insistence on hardwood certification."

The Editorial goes on to explain that the United Kingdom is farthest along in developing a national policy on certified lumber procurement, and that the British government currently accepts as sustainable lumber that which is certified according to the Canadian Standards Association (CSA), Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes (PEFC), and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI). It also considers as legal lumber that which is certified according to the Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC). The French, German, Dutch, Belgian and Danish governments have also taken major steps toward implementing public sector certification requirements, with similar subsequent growth in private-sector demand for certified lumber. It is fully expected that the present inconsistent policies being developed by various European countries will be harmonized in a uniform EC standard in the near future.

The Hardwood Review Editorial identifies some options for confronting the future certification requirements in Europe. These were developed by David Venable, European director for the American Hardwood Export Council (AHEC). The first is to "Do nothing." Second, "Perform a detailed analysis of hardwood sustainability to support the view that buying hardwoods from U.S. suppliers is a "low risk" proposition." Third, "Develop a code of conduct or "responsible procurement policy." And finally, "Encourage more widespread use of forest certification." For those who view the first option most favorably, bear in mind that doing nothing most likely will eventually result in lost European market share. The Editorial concludes by pointing out that the North American hardwood industry should view the push for certification as an opportunity to shine rather than an unnecessary nuisance, and that the European certification requirements seem imminent this time around and we therefore had better be ready to meet them.

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**Winter 2007**

(Issue #21)

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) program is a voluntary, industry driven effort developed to ensure that future generations will have the same abundant, healthy, and productive forests we enjoy today. Created in 1995 by the American Forest & Paper Association (the national trade organization representing the United States forest products industry), SFI is a program of comprehensive forestry and conservation practices.

In order to broaden the practice of sustainable forestry in our state, an Implementation Committee was formed to develop the Sustainable Forestry Initiative of Pennsylvania. Today, the PA SFI program works to ensure the progress of the national initiative, here in Pennsylvania.

**SFI Implementation Committee (SIC) Members**

- Tom Buzby, Chairman, Weaber, Inc.\*
- Matt Andrews, Deer Park Lumber
- John Bouch, PA Veneers, Inc.
- Bill Bow, Appleton Papers, Inc.
- Charlie Brown, Glatfelter Pulp Wood Co.\*
- Keith Craig, PA HDC
- Dan Evans, Weyerhaeuser\*
- Jim Finley, Penn State University
- James Grace, PA DCNR
- Bob Hobbes, Hobbes Forestry
- Dave Jackson, Penn State Cooperative Ext.
- Val Kelmeckis, Temple Inland\*
- Mark King, Craftmaster Manufacturing, Inc.
- Jeff Kochel, Forest Investment Associates
- Dave Krumenacker, Krumenacker Lumber Co.
- Rich LaBrozzi, RAM Forest Products
- John Levasseur, Hancock Forest Mangement
- Paul Lyskava, PFPA
- Ken Manno, PA SFI
- Gene Odato, Bureau of Forestry
- Ken Roberts, NewPage Corporation
- Ron Rohall, PACD
- Pat Sherren, NewPage Corporation
- Dave Sienko, Sienko Forest Products
- Kevin Stout, Allegheny Wood Products.\*
- Susan Stout, USDA Forest Service
- Sue Swanson, AHUG
- Mark Webb, Webb Forestry Consulting
- Jonathan Wirth, Walker Lumber Co.
- Jay Farrell, SFI, Inc.

\*DENOTES SFI Program Participant

Questions or comments regarding the PA SFI newsletter, contact 814-867-9299, 888-734-9366, or via e-mail at [sfi@penn.com](mailto:sfi@penn.com).

**It's a Wakeup Call**

*(continued)*

The most recent data indicates that EU member countries account for 22.7% of total U.S. hardwood exports by volume and 30.7% by value. For many Pennsylvania forest products industry companies, this market is extremely important to their present and future business success. I encourage everyone who has not seen the full Editorial previously referenced and whose business is significantly dependent on the European market, or has plans to participate in that market in the future, to contact the Hardwood Review to obtain a copy. They can be reached at 800-638-7206.



**Ken Manno**  
Program Manager  
PA SFI Program

**Industry News**

**WSRI LEADS MAJOR LOG TRUCKING EFFICIENCY PILOT** – Forest Resources Association, Inc. RELEASE – November 27, 2006

Rockville, MD – The Wood Supply Research Institute is launching a major pilot project in two Southern states to develop and evaluate centralized log truck dispatching systems, as well as the latest technology and methodology, as a model for increased wood fiber hauling efficiency.

“Increasing percent-loaded miles and optimizing trucking resources is a priority for improving the wood supply chain’s operational efficiency,” commented WSRI Executive Director Jim Fendig. “WSRI has decided to build and implement a new wood fiber transportation model on an operational scale, as the best way to learn and fine-tune systems that work. This will be applied research at its best.”

WSRI will establish the two pilots in Alabama and South Carolina, in consultation with logging associations in both states.

The Project’s Technical Team Leader, Buck Ford of International Paper, noted, “Decoupling trucking from woods operations, through centralized dispatching, provides the potential to increase percent-loaded miles and optimize the use of scarce trucking resources. This project will test and evaluate technical and business issues for a system that can bring value to all supply chain participants.”

The Alabama and South Carolina Projects will each entail developing a hauling network to enable a single, centrally dispatched trucking fleet to serve the fiber-hauling needs of dozens of independent contractors and several different mill organizations within a geographic nucleus. Ford estimates that each state’s pilot project would start with 15 to 25 trucks, but that those fleets might grow to as large as 100 by the end of 2007. In the case of the Alabama pilot, WSRI has identified as many as seven different mill organizations that could potentially all participate.

**(continued on back page)**



# Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® SIC Block 1 Schedule 2007: March 7 - May 24, 2007

**CORE COURSES (Must complete Environmental Logging, Logging Safety and First Aid/CPR to complete SFI Core Training Requirements. First Aid/CPR may be taken through other entities. To receive credit, send us a copy of your First Aid/CPR cards.)**

COURSE DATE	COURSE NAME	LOCATION	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	COST
(Wed.) 3/7/07	Environmental Logging	Potter Co. Conservation Dist. Office	(Wed.) 2/28/07	\$55.00
(Fri.) 3/9/07	Environmental Logging	Weaber, Inc.	(Fri.) 3/02/07	\$55.00
(Wed.) 3/14/07	Logging Safety	BOF Office Forbes S.F., Laughlinton	(Wed.) 3/07/07	\$55.00
(Thur.) 3/15/07	Logging Safety	Appleton Paper Mill, Roaring Spring	(Thur.) 3/08/07	\$55.00
(Wed.) 3/21/07	Environmental Logging	BOF Office Forbes S.F., Laughlinton	(Wed.) 3/14/07	\$55.00
(Thur.) 3/22/07	Environmental Logging	Appleton Paper Mill, Roaring Spring	(Thur.) 3/15/07	\$55.00
(Thur.) 3/22/07	Logging Safety	DCNR Office, Emporium	(Thur.) 3/15/07	\$55.00
(Fri.) 3/23/07	Logging Safety	Weaber, Inc., Lebanon	(Fri.) 3/16/07	\$55.00
(Wed.) 3/28/07	Environmental Logging	The Fulton Theatre, McConnellsburg	(Wed.) 3/21/07	Call for details
(Tue.) 4/10/07	Logging Safety	DCNR BOF Owego Foreman HQ, Lordsville	(Tue.) 4/03/07	\$55.00
(Tue.) 4/10/07	Logging Safety	DCNR Office, Penfield	(Tue.) 4/03/07	\$55.00
(Wed.) 4/11/07	Environmental Logging	DCNR BOF Owego Foreman HQ, Lordsville	(Wed.) 4/04/07	\$55.00
(Thur.) 4/12/07	FA/CPR	DCNR BOF Owego Foreman HQ, Lordsville	(Thur.) 4/05/07	\$45.00
(Tue.) 4/17/07	Environmental Logging	Warriors Mark UMC, Warriors Mark	(Tue.) 4/10/07	\$55.00
(Wed.) 4/18/07	Logging Safety	Warriors Mark UMC, Warriors Mark	(Wed.) 4/11/07	\$55.00
(Thur.) 4/19/07	Environmental Logging	Mahoning Twp. Municipal Bldg., Danville	(Thur.) 4/12/07	\$55.00
(Thur.) 4/19/07	FA/CPR	Warriors Mark UMC, Warriors Mark	(Thur.) 4/12/07	\$35.00
(Thur.) 4/26/07	Environmental Logging	Jefferson Co. DCNR Office, Brookville	(Thur.) 4/19/07	\$55.00
(Wed.) 5/02/07	Environmental Logging	Fire Hall, Johnsonburg	(Wed.) 4/25/07	\$55.00
(Thur.) 5/24/07	Environmental Logging	Moose Lodge, Port Allegany	(Thur.) 5/17/07	\$55.00

**IMPORTANT NEWS:** If you have taken Logging Safety in the past, you may retake it for your Continuing Education requirement until the end of 2007. **PLEASE NOTE:** Due to the recent changes in our requirements, you will receive (2) years of CE Credit for this course! **PLEASE CALL THE SFI OFFICE FOR MORE DETAILS!**

**CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES:** (1) year of credit is given for 4-hr.\* courses and (2) years of credit is given for 8-hr. courses as per SFI Training Letter dated 1/5/07.

COURSE DATE	COURSE NAME	LOCATION	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	COST
(Mon.) 4/2/07	*Proactive Accident Prevention	Powdermill Nature Reserve, Ligonier; 4pm-8pm	(Mon.) 3/26/07	\$ 25.00
(Tue.) 4/3/07	*Logging Safety I & II (4-Hr total)	Fire Hall, Johnsonburg (Please call SFI Office for details)	(Tue.) 3/27/07	\$15.00
(Wed.) 4/4/07	*Proactive Accident Prevention	DCNR Office, North Warren; 4pm-8pm	(Wed.) 3/28/07	\$ 25.00
(Thur.) 4/5/07	GPS for Forest Management	Grand Valley Fire Hall, Grand Valley	(Thur.) 3/29/07	\$ 85.00
(Thur.) 4/5/07	*Proactive Accident Prevention	DCNR Office, Penfield; 4pm-8pm	(Thur.) 3/29/07	\$ 25.00
(Mon.) 4/23/07	*Timber Harvest Planning on the Web	PSU Cooperative Ext. Off., Bellefonte; 4pm-8pm	(Mon.) 4/16/07	\$60.00
(Tue.) 4/24/07	Intro. to Forest Management	DCNR Office, Penfield	(Tue.) 4/17/07	\$ 75.00
(Tue.) 5/1/07	Game of Logging 3	Caledonia, DCNR District 1	(Tue.) 4/24/07	\$120.00
(Wed.) 5/2/07	Game of Logging 4	Caledonia, DCNR District 1	(Wed.) 4/25/07	\$120.00
(Tue.) 5/8/07	SF2, AFM Sustainable Silviculture	Babcock S.F., Ogetown	(Tue.) 5/01/07	\$ 75.00
(Tue.) 5/22/07	Game of Logging 1	Sullivan Co. Area	(Tue.) 5/15/07	\$120.00
(Wed.) 5/23/07	Game of Logging 2	Sullivan Co. Area	(Wed.) 5/16/07	\$120.00

For additional information, please contact the SFI office at (814) 867-9299 or Toll free at (888) 734-9366. Upon receipt of your completed registration form and payment, participants will receive further, more detailed information regarding the classes.

**PLEASE NOTE:** For the most-up-to date schedule, visit [www.sfiopa.org](http://www.sfiopa.org). Also, please check our upcoming newsletter for any changes or additions to the schedule.

**To Register for One or More of These Courses by Mail, Send Completed Form & Check (made out to PA SFI SIC) to:** 315 South Allen Street, Suite 418, State College, Pennsylvania 16801

Name Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Name, Date & Location of Courses Attending: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Use back for additional space)

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, & Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ A Check is Enclosed for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# Mark your calendars

## 2007 TREE FARM INSPECTOR CERTIFICATION TRAINING SESSIONS

Three training sessions offered for professional foresters to become certified inspectors of Tree Farm properties:

1. **Wednesday, March 21, 2007**  
**6:00 PM - 9:00 PM**  
**Forest Resources Building, Room 106**  
**Penn State University, University Park, PA 16802**
2. **Tuesday, April 3, 2007**  
**9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon**  
**Bureau of Forestry, District 4 Office**  
**Laughlintown, PA 15655**
3. **Thursday, April 5, 2007**  
**9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon**  
**Lackawanna State Park**  
**Environmental Learning Center**  
**Dalton, PA 18414**

To register, or to obtain additional information, please call Dave Jackson, PA Tree Farm Program Chairman, 814-355-4897 or by e-mail at [CentreExt@psu.edu](mailto:CentreExt@psu.edu).

## TIMBER 2007

Forest Products Equipment and Technology Exposition

June 1-2, 2007

Friday -9-5, Saturday - 9-4

Ag Progress Days Site at Rock Springs, PA

Rt. 45, 9 miles southwest of State College, PA

**For Exhibitor Information, please contact:**

Bob Oberheim at Pennsylvania State University

Phone: (814) 863-2873 • Fax: (814) 865-1677

Cell: (814) 571-2128 • E-mail: [PaTimberShow@psu.edu](mailto:PaTimberShow@psu.edu)

<http://patimbershow.cas.psu.edu>

Seminars and active demonstrations on site

55-acre show site with inside and outside exhibitor space

Free Admission & Parking

Opportunities to earn PA SFI training credit

**Timber 2007 is hosted by the Pennsylvania Forest Products Association and Penn State. Timber 2007 sponsors include the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Hardwoods Development Council and Ag Choice Farm Credit.**

SEE RELATED ARTICLE ON PAGE 6



## **PORTABLE IN-WOODS BIOREFINERY?** - FRA Bulletin, August 31, 2006 - Volume 8, Number 10

In mid-August, MIT's *Technology Review* circulated a review of an emerging technology, owned by Ottawa-based Advanced Biorefinery, which claims to be able to convert logging slash into a potentially valuable "bio oil" by means of a portable pyrolysis system – chemical conversion through heat – which may be installed right at the logging site. The reasoning is that eliminating the expenses of transporting slash to a central processing plant more than makes up for a certain loss in economies of scale, since the bio oil product – which can potentially yield fuel and other valuable chemicals – and the charcoal byproduct condense the energy value of the slash into a much smaller mass.

The non-profit organization Sustainable Development Technology Canada says it will "contribute financing" toward a pilot project, involving Advanced Biorefinery and a "forest operator" in northern Ontario. More at [www.technologyreview.com/read\\_article.aspx?id=17298&ch=biztech](http://www.technologyreview.com/read_article.aspx?id=17298&ch=biztech), including a blog of both trenchant and clueless commentary.

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## **HAVE YOU HUGGED YOUR TREES TODAY?** – National Woodlands, Autumn 2006 Edition

Woodland owners have perfected a specialty in growing trees. Only in recent years has the role of trees been seriously studied for their impact on sustaining our environment and life itself on the planet. The results are both startling and impressive.

One mature tree absorbs approximately 12 pounds of carbon dioxide a year. Multiply that by the number of trees per acre, and again by the number of acres in trees, and a market for "carbon sequestration" emerges. For every ton of wood a forest grows, it removes 1.47 tons of carbon dioxide and replaces it with 1.07 tons of oxygen.

Around homes, trees provide natural beauty, homes for wildlife – especially songbirds – and shade. Three well-placed mature trees around a house can cut air-conditioning costs by 10-50 percent. Trees and other landscaping can increase property value by five to ten percent. In other words: Trees Are the Answer!"

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## **TOUGH NEW TIMBER THEFT LAW TESTED IN NEW YORK** – The Northern Logger, November 2006 Edition

In what is believed to be the first real test of New York State's updated Timber Theft laws, a Roxbury (Delaware County) forest owner was awarded more than \$62,800 for the illegal taking of 29 hardwood sawtimber trees. According to Andrew Van Buren of Hobart, attorney for the plaintiff, a parcel that adjoins his client's was sold in early 2005. In July of that year the new neighbor, while logging the property himself, crossed over the property line and illegally harvested 18 black cherry, 5 white ash, 3 red oak, 2 sugar (hard) maples and 1 red (soft) maple. When the two parties could not work out an agreement, the case went to Delaware County Civil Court.

The dispute hinged on the failure of the landowner/logger to properly identify the property lines. In determining the property line location, the offender relied upon tax maps and reputed locations from the realtor. Simple investigation and due diligence at the County Courthouse showed that there was a survey map on file for the parcel, and that lot line bearing and distance information were contained in the deed. Although criminal charges could have been filed, the case was brought to civil court because, according to Van Buren "he was more guilty of being dumb than being malicious."

After a short deliberation, the jury awarded the plaintiff the new statutory rate of \$250 per tree (\$7,250). The jury also awarded \$14,000 as the estimated timber value, and since the defendant was found to be negligent in his actions, the award was tripled by the jury (\$42,000). In addition the victim was awarded \$8,000 for property remediation, \$4,400 in interest charges and \$1,155 in court filing fees. According to Van Buren, the damages should be covered by the defendant's (homeowner's) insurance policy; however the punitive portions of the award, totaling \$35,250 are not covered. In this case, the jury apparently understood that timber trespass is theft, and compensated the landowner the maximum amount allowed by law.

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## **CELLULOSE MAKES PLASTIC 3,000 TIMES STRONGER** – The E-Forester, October 23, 2006 Issue

Researchers at the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF) are developing ways to use cellulose from wood to strengthen plastics, providing a lightweight component that has the added advantage of being biodegradable.

To view a video (Quicktime) about the research, visit the ESF website.

# In Brief (continued)

## A PLANNING GUIDE FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM SIZE WOOD PRODUCTS COMPANIES – The E-Forester, September 11, 2006 Issue

At the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, North American wood products companies are facing competitive pressure from numerous sources. Traditional products are being manufactured in new regions and substitute products are being developed by competing industries. The bottom line is strained by greater restriction of natural resources and the general rising cost of doing business. All of this pressure is stretching the abilities of the wood products manager to the limit. The times are changing, and they're changing quickly. So what can be done to improve the chances of success and maximize a firm's capabilities? Research has shown that a formal planning process is a key to the success of manufacturing companies, especially with regard to developing new products and new markets. **To download a copy of this report, visit the Forest Service Northeastern Area website.**

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## HONDA CLAIMS CELLULOSIC ETHANOL BREAKTHROUGH – FRA Bulletin, October 27, 2006 Issue

On September 14, Japan's Honda Motor Company announced that it had co-developed the "world's first practical process" for producing ethanol out of cellulosic biomass, such as wood waste, corn stover, or switchgrass, with its partner, Research Institute of Innovative Technology for the Earth, a Japan-based non profit. According to the news release, the essential breakthrough was the bioengineering of a microorganism that is able to avoid interference of fermentation inhibitors in converting cellulosic sugars – as opposed to the conventional cane – or corn-derived sugars-into ethanol.

Honda stated it intended "to set up a pilot plant in 2008 at the earliest to test the technology for practical application," although "commercial application has not yet been discussed."

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## NJ AUDUBON OPTS FOR MANAGEMENT – FRA Bulletin, October 27, 2006 Issue

According to an October 13 article in the *Press of Atlantic City* (New Jersey), the New Jersey Audubon Society has "begun advocating what hunters have suggested for years: selective forestry and burning to improve wildlife habitat" on the state's Pinelands National Reserve. "It needs disturbance," comments the chapter's director of conservation. "The Pine Barrens of New Jersey need fire like the rainforest needs rain." Furthermore: "In order to restore (the Pine Barrens) to more natural conditions, what you need to do is do some selective thinning... and controlled burns." He also makes note of conditions making the unmanaged parcel susceptible to an ecologically disastrous catastrophic fire.

A Ruffed Grouse Society biologist also supports the plan and speculates that, in reporter Meggan Clark's paraphrase, "conservationists seem to have become aware that the hands-off approach is actually detrimental to forest diversity and ground-dwelling birds."

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## LA TIMES NOTES IMPACT OF MANAGEMENT WITHDRAWAL – FRA Bulletin, September 28, 2006 – Volume 8, Number 11

The August 31 *Los Angeles Times* ran a lengthy feature on the mountain pine beetle epidemic in the Intermountain West, and the effect it is having on vacationers' viewscapes and – perhaps – broader ecological values. Faintly suggesting "climate change" may be marginally to blame, reporter Stephanie Simon nonetheless concludes, "Perhaps the biggest factor is the age of the mountain forests. In central Colorado, for instance, decades of fire suppression and logging restrictions have left many slopes densely packed with lodgepole pines 100 to 120 years old. Such trees, which can reach about 70 feet, are the beetles' favorite habitat." And there's more: "After years of fighting wilderness logging, policymakers in many areas find themselves wooing timber companies in a bid to reduce fire risk and make way for new growth."

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## TIMBER 2007 FOREST PRODUCTS EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY EXPOSITION

The Pennsylvania Forest Products Industry is gearing up for the next timber show – Timber 2007 – scheduled for June 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, at the Ag Progress Days Site at Rock Springs, 9 miles southwest of State College on Route 45. Both admission and parking are free. Some of the many highlights of this year's show are:

- 55 acres of exhibition grounds including indoor and outdoor displays with ample space for on-site equipment demonstrations.
- Attendees can explore the equipment and services of an estimated 100-plus exhibitors that are focused on serving the needs of the forest products industry.
- A variety of seminars will be offered to provide timely and important information on a number of issues affecting both our forest resource and our industry.
- During each day of Timber 2007, programs will be offered whereby attendees can earn PA SFI Continuing Education training credit.

Timber 2007 promises to be a beneficial experience for anyone and everyone who is part of the forest products industry, or who has an interest in the future of our state's vital forest resource.

## CORE TRAINING COMPLETED

Since July 2006, the following individuals have completed Core Level training with the PA SFI. Core Level Courses are FA/CPR, Logging Safety, and Environmental Logging.

Kevin Brink	Irvona
Mark Brown	Spring Grove
Richard M. Brown	Russell
Tim Crissman	Rew
Jan Clark	Hopewell
Jeff Copenhaver	Lock Haven
Douglas Dellinger	Lebanon
Roderick Duvall, Jr.	Crystal Springs
Sanford N. Ebersole	New Bethlehem
Michael Emerick	Meyersdale
Jacob M. Fremer	Brockway
Matt Gayley	Kane
Brian Gondek	Coalport
Randy Groover	Farmington
David Henderson	Meyersdale
Michael Holt	Kane
Scott Houseknecht	Montoursville
Richard Iddings	Brockway
Robert Joll	Connellsville
William Mann	Muncy
Eliazer F. Manuel	Frostburg, MD
Greg Marshall	Ebensburg
Victor Marquardt	Unityville
Jerry Martin	Drifting
Mark Miller	White
Andrew Miller	Berlin
Brian Minier	Benton
Kerry Morrison, Sr.	Indian Head
Jim Myers	Mt. Jewett
Jacob Neiderhiser	Ligonier
Dan Oleary	St. Marys
Fay W. Parsells	Wellsboro
Dennis Payne	Wilcox
Benjamin Peachey	Kinzer
Ruste K. Pittman	Everett
Trevor Pittman	Everett
David Platt	Lewisburg
Steve Powell	Emporium
William Richter	Meyersdale
Steve Rishel	Millmont
Richard N. Robinson	Bellefonte
Robert N. Robinson	Howard
Dennis Rosenberry	Fannettsburg
Troy A. Rosenberry	Fannettsburg
Bill Sewell	Kane
Kevin Sexton	Holtwood
Michael D. Shoemaker	Mifflinburg
Gregory Shreffler	Kane
Jim Sluga	Mt. Jewett
Lucas Stec	Garland
Dustin Straw	Curwensville
Earl Wangler	Centerville
Nelson Weaver	Mifflinburg
Andy Whelpley	Brockway
Mike Yasurek	Kane
Joshua Yusko	Elton
Jeremy Zeisloft	Hughesville

Charles F. Brown, Jr.	Seward
Jeff Christine	Osceola Mills
Charles L. Conner	Driftwood
Greg Denochick	Morrisdale
Luke Dillinger	Johnsonburg
Harry Dotts	Osceola Mills
Darrell Graham	West Decatur
Jeff Graham	West Decatur
Terry Haskin	Coudersport
Marvin E. Hoover	Kar thaus
Marvin R. Hoover	Kar thaus
Joseph Kocjancic	Johnsonburg
Rudy Kocjancic	Leeper
Donald T. Kovalick	Clearfield
Michael Krause	West Decatur
Mark Krumenacker	Carrolltown
John Levavasieur	Coudersport
William Lyon	Emporium
Dave Lytle	Morrisdale
Howard Rathbun	Shinglehouse
Daniel J. Rorabaugh	Burnside
Mark J. Selfridge	Curwensville
Jake Sorg	St. Marys
Jedidiah R. Sorg	Emporium
Richard T. Sorg	Emporium
Terry Swanson	Kane
Richard Swatsworth	Woodland

## GPS IN FOREST MANAGEMENT

Michael I. Dreese, Jr.	Lewisburg
Andrew L. Gessner	Lykens
Vernon Gessner	Lykens
Jon Howard	Tunkhannock
Bob Kirchner	St. Marys
Richard Kordes	Lewisburg
David Platt	Lewisburg
Robert Powell	Kingston
Mark Ridall	Mehoopany

## GAME OF LOGGING 1

Jacky Ayotte	Warren Center
James Ayotte	Little Meadows
Donald Bratz	Ickesburg
Corey Case	Denver
Stuart Deprey	Little Meadows
Joshua Elliott	Warren Center
David Felix	Loganton
Andrew L. Graham	Roaring Branch
Lee T. Graham	Morris
Wilbur A. Hain	Richfield
Jeremy Hicks	Unityville
Mitchell D. Higley	Dushore
Scott Houseknecht	Montoursville
Gerald Hoy	Port Matilda
Jonathan Jeffries	Loganton
Peter C. Johnson	Laurelton
Marvin Kauffman	Myerstown
Victor Marquardt	Unityville
Elias S. Maurer	Mifflinburg
Brian Minier	Benton
Tim Nipple	Mifflintown
Tracy Nipple	Mifflintown
Sean Quinn	Elverson
Jude Richardson	Cogan Station
Dustin Straw	Curwensville
Oliver T. Vanada	Spring Mills
Brad Wendt	Laurelton
Harold Wodrig, Jr.	Hughesville
Jeremy Zeisloft	Hughesville

## GAME OF LOGGING 2

Michael Becker	Laurelton
Donald Bratz	Ickesburg
Corey Case	Denver
David Felix	Loganton
Wilbur A. Hain	Richfield
Gerald Hoy	Port Matilda
Jonathan Jeffries	Loganton
Peter C. Johnson	Laurelton
Marvin Kauffman	Myerstown
Sam Lantz	Myerstown
Perry Libby	Coudersport
Elias S. Maurer	Mifflinburg
Leon Peachey, Jr.	Paxinos
Mark C. Potter	Laurelton
Sean Quinn	Elverson
Patrick D. Sherren	Warriors Mark
David L. Smoker	Myerstown
Dustin Straw	Curwensville
Adam J. Tegano	Lebanon
Brad Wendt	Laurelton

## GAME OF LOGGING 3

Corey Case	Denver
Luke DiBeradinis	Morgantown
Erich Estes	West Chester
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Troy L. Holtry	Orrstown
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Marvin Kauffman	Myerstown
Sam Lantz	Myerstown
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Nathan A. Poust	Hughesville
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Richard EC Powell	Bethel
Lloyd Sheaffer	Richfield
David L. Smoker	Myerstown
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Parnell Zwald	Shermans Dale

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Raymond Yoder, Jr.	Belleville
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Doyle Baum	Schuylkill Haven

Kevin E. Black	Chambersburg
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Paul M. Iampietro	Chambersburg
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Jerry M. Nickel	Carlisle
Adin Otto	Carlisle
Troy A. Rosenberry	Fannettsburg
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Lewis Stern	Fort Loudon
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Dennis M. Brehm	Lebanon
Paul Noll	Loretto
John A. Williams	Kane
Josh Yusko	Elton



## FLAMBEAU ANNOUNCES BIOFUEL/PULP PROJECT

FRA Bulletin, January 30, 2007  
Volume 9, Number 2

On January 23, Flambeau River Biorefinery, LLC announced that it had entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Atlanta-based American Process Inc. for the latter to provide project management and Engineering services for a wood-sourced cellulosic ethanol project adjacent to the Flambeau River Papers mill in Park Falls, Wisconsin. According to the announcement, apart from producing 20 million gallons of cellulosic ethanol per year from spent pulping liquor, the Flambeau River complex's plans to replace its natural gas boilers with a biomass boiler or gasifier will make it the first "energy independent" integrated pulp and paper mill in North America. Production of ethanol is expected to begin "as early as 2009."

## Continuing Education Courses Completed Since July 2006

### GARAGE SAFETY

Richard A. Andrus	Emporium
Scott Andrus	Emporium
Fred Bradford	West Decatur
Jesse Brown	Seward



## EPA PUBLISHES SPCC AMENDMENTS – FRA Bulletin – January 10, 2007, Volume 9, Number 1

On December 26, 2006, the federal Environmental Protection Agency published several favorable amendments to its Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) regulations in the *Federal Register*, in response to comments submitted by FRA and other groups representing owners and operators of facilities that store 10,000 gallons of oil or less.

Here are the key changes, to take effect on February 26, 2007:

**Qualified Facilities** – Operations that store over 1,320 gallons, but less than 10,000, of oil-based fluids must have an SPCC Plan. Oil and other fluids that count towards the 1,320 threshold amount include the storage capacity of fuel tanks and hydraulic fluid reservoirs (55-gallon capacity or larger) of **stationary** equipment used on logging and forestry operations (that is, trailer-mounted loaders, delimiters, chippers and so on) and the storage capacity of refueling tanks.

Self-certification of SPCC Plans (in lieu of review and certification by a Professional Engineer, as required previously) by owners and operators of facilities (including field-based operations) with an oil storage capacity of 10,000 gallons or less is permitted if the operation meets the following criteria:

- The operation has experienced no single discharge of oil into navigable waterways of 1,000 gallons during the past three years; and
- The operation has experienced no two discharges of oil into navigable waterways each exceeding 42 gallons within any 12-month period during the previous three years.

EPS is working on a standardized checklist to be used by facilities that self-certify their SPCC Plans. **FRA will develop a sample SPCC Plan that logging and forestry operations can modify to meet the SPCC Plan requirements.**

**Motive Power Exemption** – EPA defines motive power containers as **self-propelled** vehicles that contain oil in capacities of 55 gallons or more, used to propel the vehicle or facilitate the operation of onboard equipment (such as hydraulic systems). Mobile refuelers are not included in this exemption (see below). Self-propelled non-transportation-related vehicles (such as skidders, forwarders, feller-bunchers, and harvesters) qualify for this exemption. Trucks used to transport logs, pulpwood, and equipment from jobsite to jobsite are exempt from the SPCC requirements as well, due to a Memorandum of Understanding between the federal Department of Transportation and EPA governing “highway” vehicles.

**Oil-filled Operational Equipment** – EPA defines oil-filled operational equipment as equipment with an oil storage container (or multiple containers) in which the oil-based fluid (55-gallon capacity or more) is used solely to power the equipment. On logging operations, oil-filled equipment may include stationary equipment mounted on trailers, such as loaders, delimiters and chippers. Although the cumulative capacity of the fuel tanks and hydraulic fluid reservoirs would count towards the 1,320-gallon threshold for preparing a SPCC Plan, oil-filled equipment is not considered a bulk storage container. Therefore, the EPA does not require passive secondary containment structures (such as dikes or berms), but will allow field-based forestry operations to adopt active measures (such as spill kits and contingency plans) to prevent oil discharges from entering navigable waters.

**Mobile Refuelers** – EPA defines a mobile refueler as a bulk storage container, whether on-board a vehicle or towed, that is designed or used solely to store and transport fuel to other vehicles or equipment. Despite mobile refuelers’ being bulk storage containers, in regulating them, EPA has eliminated the “sized secondary containment” requirement (which would call for a secondary containment structure able to contain the entire quantity of oil in a refueling tank) in favor of “appropriate containment and/or diversionary structures to prevent a discharge into navigable waters,” including the use of active measures (spill kits, contingency planning, and training) that would effectively contain the oil spill if one should occur.

Clearly, the use of mobile refueling tanks on logging and forestry operations offers the greatest exposure for oil spills and the application of the SPCC Plan requirements. However, EPA has greatly increased the flexibility of complying with the SPCC Plan requirements with the publication of these Technical Amendments.

To examine the 28-page SPCC Amendments (Federal Register, Vol. 71, No. 247, pages 77266-77293), visit [www.epa.gov/oilspill/spcc\\_dec06.htm](http://www.epa.gov/oilspill/spcc_dec06.htm) or request a copy from FRA Director of Forestry Programs Steve Jarvis at [sjarvis@forestresources.org](mailto:sjarvis@forestresources.org), 301-838-9385.

Although, as noted, the effective date of the amended rule is February 26, 2007, EPA is proposing to extend the compliance deadline for the SPCC regulations until July 1, 2009 to allow for the development of an SPCC Plan compliance checklist and in anticipation of other revisions that EPA expects to propose later this year.



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**CANADA LEADS THE WORLD IN FOREST CERTIFICATION –**

The E-Forester, January 23, 2007 Issue

December 31 – According to the Sustainable Forestry Certification Coalition, Canada is the world's certified forestland leader, with 305.7 million acres certified to the three sustainable forest management certification programs in use in Canada. Only one-tenth of the world's production forests are certified and yet Canada's contribution is greatest, accounting for over half of the certifications recognized by the global Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes and almost one quarter of Forest Stewardship Council certifications worldwide.

**SFI, Inc. Program Participants in Pennsylvania**

- Allegheny Wood Products (3)
- Glatfelter Pulp Wood Co. (10)
- Hancock Forest Management (2)
- International Paper (10)
- NewPage Corp. (10) ☒☜
- Temple-Inland (4)
- Weaber, Inc. (10) ☒☜
- Weyerhaeuser (10) ☒☜

**SFI Program Licensees**

PA DCNR - Bureau of Forestry

**PA SFI SIC Program Partners**

*Partners Program Participants are committed to the SFI Standards and pay a set fee annually based on sawmill production from Pennsylvania sawlogs.*

- Appleton Papers, Inc. (9)
- Blue Ox Timber Resources (8)
- Bonham Log & Lumber, Inc. (8)
- Brode Lumber (8)
- BroJack Lumber Company, Inc. (6)
- Brooks Lumber & Timber Harvesting (9)
- Clear Lake Lumber (8) ☒☜
- Cornerstone Forest Products (9) ☒☜
- Craftmaster Manufacturing, Inc.(5)
- Cummings Lumber (8) ☒☜
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- Dwight Lewis Lumber Co. (5)
- C.A. Elliot Lumber (7)
- Heacock Lumber (6)
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- R.J. Hoffman & Sons Lumber (6)
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- Trumco, Inc. (3)
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- Wheeland Lumber (9) ☒☜

*\*denotes new company*

*( )= years as participant*

*Visit our web site for e-mail addresses (☒) and web site links (☜) for these Partners and Supporters!*

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*Supporter Companies help to promote sustainable forestry practices and pledge meaningful financial contributions.*

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- Custead's Sawmill, Inc. (8)
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- Hobbes Forestry Services (6)
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*\*denotes new company*

**Please send me information on SFI's Partners**

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## ROAD POSTING REGULATIONS A HEADACHE IN PENNSYLVANIA by Martin Melville, Pennsylvania Loggers - Timber Harvesting, July/August 2006 Issue

Pennsylvania has 67 counties. Certainly other states have more than that. Our problem is that we also have more than 2,500 townships and boroughs. Each is a little kingdom supposedly bound to comply with state level regulations but frequently acts as it sees fit. Politically savvy yuppies are moving from the urban grind of Philadelphia, New York and New Jersey to take up residence in scenic rural areas of our state. Their ideas of the services government should regulate and those it should provide are frequently in conflict with the locals who have lived there most or all of their lives. They move in. They get elected or join the planning commission. They start changing things for the "better." Even if they aren't elected a supervisor or council member, they show up at meetings to make their points-of-view known. That's their right in this free society. I know this isn't the only part of this country where this scenario is played out.

The problems start when the local government heeds the call and declares "We must do something!" The result is another layer of regulation, more costs to be "absorbed" by business, and a kudzu-like thicket of regulations to be complied with. One hates to call the township office to inquire whether they have a timber harvesting ordinance for fear that just asking may result in enactment of an ordinance if one is not already in effect.

The idea behind road posting and bonding is simple enough: to hold accountable those who may cause damage to roads beyond normal wear and tear. Many rural roads suffer from poor drainage, little or no base, thin pavement (Pennsylvania's famous Pinchot pave job: tar and chip), or all of the above. During spring thaw many of our roads turn into putty. The potential for damage is very real. Unfortunately, posting and bonding can be used as part of a regulatory net some people refer to as "social engineering" to discourage logging, to save the forest and preserve something that can't be preserved. (Ever hear of succession?)

PennDot has relatively clear rules concerning the process a township must follow to post a road legally. Failure to do so can result in the township losing part or all of the fuel tax reimbursement it receives from the state. That reimbursement is typically a large chunk of the township's roads budget. The township must:

1. Conduct an engineering and traffic study. For this, the township can commission a pavement analysis or rely on "past experience."
2. It must pass an ordinance specific to the piece of road in question;
3. It must advertise the ordinance
4. It must contact known haulers
5. And it must put up signs according to DOT rules.

Failure to do any of these things can nullify the posting/bonding. Perhaps because the forest products industry tends to take what's handed to us, townships frequently don't do the engineering study or meet other requirements. But they do still post roads.

PennDOT is also clear about the amount a municipality is allowed to charge per mile of road: \$12,500 for paved road, \$6,000 for dirt or gravel road. There are documented instances such as a township requiring a \$60,000 bond for a road that it could legally charge \$20,000. Even with contact from attorneys and PennDOT, this township was not about to back down. The matter was resolved when the company went ahead and hauled on the road. The police stopped its trucks. The company notified the township that it wished to be cited for violating the posted weight limit. Only then did the township reconsider its position and allow the posting of the "legal" bond of \$20,000. This company did not throw up its hands and say "gosh. There's nothing we can do. Guess we'll have to pony up." In another case, the bond for 1.5 miles of paved road was \$18,750 in accordance with PennDOT regulations, for 10 loads of logs. That ties up a lot of capital. Another township declared it would not allow even one load to be hauled without an executed bonding agreement. It wouldn't be impossible for the cost of bonding the road to render small pieces of timber unsalable, perhaps a violation of the "taking" clause in the US Constitution. Here are some actions you can take to correct illegal ordinances and temper future regulation:

- Know the rules. Get a copy of your state's laws which define the regulations for legal posting and bonding. Comply. When the municipality does not (or will not) play by the rules, don't be afraid to call their bluff, as the company mentioned did.
- Know the system and how to use it. Some heavy reading may be required but it's worth it. Be able to stand up for your rights.
- Be proactive and professional. A positive attitude is important. Even if you've got steam coming out of your ears, don't cuss out the secretary. Let them know you think they're out of line and that you want a solution that continues to protect roads but is within the conditions set forth in the state's laws.

(continued on page 11)

## ROAD POSTING REGULATIONS A HEADACHE IN PENNSYLVANIA (continued from page 10)

- Be a known entity to your township's supervisors and your state representative and senator. They can help you. They may consult you. Networking isn't just for industry contacts.
- Watch the legal announcements. Try to attend public meetings held to collect feedback. Many ordinances result from a neighbor with a grudge, an ugly harvest, mud on the road or mud in the stream. Often the supervisors feel they must take some action. They (and their solicitor) may or may not know the laws they must comply with. Often your presence at a meeting can stop some bad things from happening. It's a lot easier to stop a bad law from being enacted than it is to change it once it's on the books.
- Be active in your state's forest products or logger's association. In Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Forest Products Association has done a great job combating local ordinances and working with the state legislature to be sure business conditions remain favorable for our industry.
- Explain to your customers the cost of excessive regulation and its effort on their bottom line. Encourage them to make their feelings known. Government is always more responsive when a constituent has something to say than when an outsider does.

I recently had the pleasure of speaking with Danny Dructor, Executive Director of the American Loggers Council. He told me that while our situation here in Pennsylvania may seem unique with all the municipalities having their own ordinances, loggers in other states face similar, perhaps even worse, regulations than we have here. By working with your state organization, you can have a positive impact on the regulatory climate, your business, and the entire industry.

## Industry News

### GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS – IRS IN MN WITHHOLDING FUEL TAX ON MOBILE MACHINERY – FRA Bulletin – January 10, 2007 Volume 9, Number 1

In December, Ray Higgins of the Minnesota Timber Producers Association reported that the federal Internal Revenue Service has been conducting inspections of forest products industry businesses in Minnesota to verify compliance with "Taxable Fuel" rules. According to Higgins, one sawmill owner was cited for using dyed fuel (tax-exempt, for off-road use) in trucks bearing knuckleboom loaders – that are not licensed for over-the-road use and stay on the woodyard at all times.

This type of mobile machinery is exempt from federal excise and highway use taxes, including fuel taxes, on the basis of provisions included in the October 2004 "JOBS" bill, which exempts truck/trailer-mounted mobile machinery from federal fuel taxes IF the machine travels less 7,500 miles per year on public roads and meets the other three criteria stipulated: permanently mounted attachments operated off-road, chassis serves only as carriage for attachments, and chassis does not carry a payload.

The IRS is not denying the sawmill owner in question the federal fuel tax exemption for the truck-mounted loader; but it is requiring the owner to use clear, tax-paid diesel fuel in his loaders and then apply for a fuel tax refund at the end of the year, using Form 4136.

Remember: mobile timber harvesting machinery that cannot be licensed for highway use (skidders, forwarders, harvesters, feller-bunchers, and so on) continues to be exempt from federal fuel taxes and DOES NOT need to use clear, taxable fuel.

FRA would like to know if the IRS has audited you for using dyed fuel in mobile machinery. If so, and if there have been any unexpected outcomes, please contact FRA Director of Forestry Programs Steve Jarvis at (301) 838-9385., [sjarvis@forestresources.org](mailto:sjarvis@forestresources.org).



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## **WSRI LEADS MAJOR LOG TRUCKING EFFICIENCY PILOT**

**(continued from page 2)**

Ford estimates that detailed operating plans for each pilot project will be in place by June 2007 with actual hauling operations to begin in August. The WSRI Technical Team will put out progress reports every three months, with a final report published by the end of 2008.

WSRI membership is a requirement for participating in the study. Any organization interested in joining WSRI or participating should contact Executive Director Jim Fendig at 912/598-8023.

Forest Resources Association President Richard Lewis stated that optimization of trucking resources is one of the points at which international competitors have the U.S. supply chain at a disadvantage. "We must match or surpass the innovative and efficient wood transport systems we see overseas," he commented, "or lose our place as the world's leading forest products industry."

Founded in 1999, the Wood Supply Research Institute is a joint project of professional loggers, forest landowners, wood consuming mills, educators, and manufacturers that facilitates and funds research to promote and improve efficiency in the wood supply system.

The Forest Resources Association Inc. is a nonprofit trade association concerned with the safe, efficient, and sustainable harvest of forest products and their transport from woods to mill. FRA represents wood consumers, independent logging contractors, and wood dealers, as well as businesses providing products and services to the forest resource-based industries. FRA serves as the administrative home of WSRI.