



Summer
Issue 2005

- 1 SFI Program Update
- 3 Special Tear-out Block Schedule
- 4 In Brief
- 5 There's a Quiet Evolution Taking Place in "Penn's Woods"
- 6 Method for Extracting Wood Components Aids Biofuels Development
- 7 Time Inc. Accepts Wood Produced by American Tree Farm Certified Groups
- 8 Recent Training Course Participants
- 10 SFI in Action
- 12 Martin Melville Awarded Newest Master Logger

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The Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee (SIC)

I WANT TO CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO a couple of articles contained in this issue. One is a very complimentary piece about the professional loggers in Pennsylvania. It was written by Dick Wallace, a long-time friend of mine who is a consulting forester in the northwest part of the state. Dick mentioned to me a few months ago that he was inspired to pen this article because of the high quality timber harvesting practices that loggers are demonstrating much more commonly today. As you will readily note when you read what Dick has to say, he attributes this in large part to the training programs the loggers have attended over the years.

Their willingness to take the time and make the effort to learn how they can do their jobs more safely, environmentally conscious, efficiently, and productively is readily apparent in the quality of their work, and Dick wants them to know that their efforts are being witnessed. Since our newsletter goes to more loggers in Pennsylvania than perhaps any other publication, it seemed appropriate to me that we should provide the space for his sentiments to be expressed. Dick's original article was quite a bit longer than what we are able to offer. Unfortunately, we had to reduce it because of space limitations. We hope that in doing so we have not diminished the essence of his message.



Another item that deserves your special attention concerns a very serious matter from our friends at First Energy. Because the problems they are experiencing, however infrequently, involves a very real threat to the life and well-being of the wrongdoer, not to mention the financial costs that one may have to bear, we believe this alert serves as a much needed reminder. Cutting down trees around power lines is extremely dangerous, and yet it is something that is done every day by loggers and non-loggers alike. Please take the time to read and consider what this message has to say. After all, no one is better positioned to look out for your physical and financial safety than you are.

And finally, and also intended to serve as a reminder, I was speaking with a forest landowner a few months ago at the Sixth Annual Northeast Pennsylvania Forest Landowner Conference which was held at the Luzerne County Community College in Nanticoke. He shared with me a situation he very recently experienced where he had made some initial arrangements for selling his stumpage. The party he was working with was supposed to provide a written contract to him. Quite some time passed and he saw nothing. He attempted to contact the other party, but his inquiries went unanswered. He finally had to resort to finding another buyer.

(continued next page)



Summer 2005

(Issue #18)

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

Dan Evans, Chairman, Weyerhaeuser*

Matt Andrews, Deer Park Lumber

John Bouch, Timber Management Inc.

Bill Bow, Appleton Papers, Inc.

Charlie Brown, Glatfelter Pulp Wood Co.*

Tom Buzby, Weaver, Inc.*

Keith Craig, PA HDC

Jim Finley, Penn State University

James Grace, Bureau of Forestry

Bob Hobbes, Hobbes Forestry

Val Kelmeckis, Temple-Inland*

Dave Jackson, Penn State Cooperative Ext.

Jeff Kochel, Forest Investment Associates

Dave & Mark Krumenacker,

Krumenacker Lumber Co.

Rich LaBrozzi, RAM Forest Products

Paul Lyskava, PFPA

Ken Manno, PA SFI

Gene Odat, Bureau of Forestry

Ken Roberts, NewPage Corporation

Ron Rohall, PACD

Dave Sienko, Sienko Forest Products

Sue Swanson, AHUG

Kevin Stout, Allegheny Wood Products.*

Susan Stout, USDA Forest Service

Todd Waldron, Craftmaster Manufacturing, Inc.

Mark Webb, Webb Forestry Consulting

Jonathan Wirth, Pine Creek Lumber Co.

Jay Farrell, AF&PA Liason

*DENOTES AF&PA MEMBER COMPANY

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

SFI Program Update

(continued)

I have written previously about the Inconsistent Practices component of the SFI program. As I look back at the reports we have received since implementing this process four or five years ago, the vast majority of these issues can be attributed to one major downfall – a failure to communicate. Loggers, foresters, and timber buyers simply do not take the time to make the landowner aware of their intentions. We see this most often when a major rain situation requires either harvesting or closeout be delayed for some period of time. Either the landowner is not advised at all, or the planned date for reentering the stand is not met and the landowner is not communicated with so they know what to expect. This is but one scenario.

Obviously there are many others that happen and we in the industry fail to extend the courtesy to the landowner they deserve. Then we wonder why some people view us negatively. What is most distressing to me about these situations is that remedying them, or better yet preventing them from occurring in the first place, is so simple. So very often we create problems not through what we do, but by what we fail to do.

I remember many years ago and over a span of several years, I purchased a few automobiles from a used car dealer. He had a sign hanging over his door that read "We cannot afford to have even one dissatisfied customer." That was the motto by which he operated his business, and today he is a very rich man (read millionaire). Take care of your customers, friends, and they will take care of you. ■

Ken Manno
Program Manager
PA SFI SIC

A Job Well Done

KEN ROBERTS has completed his two year term as chairman of the PA SFI State Implementation Committee (SIC). Ken, a senior procurement forester for NewPage Corporation (formerly MeadWestvaco), has been involved with our program since the beginning back in 1995. While his guidance as chairman will be missed, we are thankful that he will continue to be an influential member of our committee. Taking the reins from Ken is Dan Evans, Wood Procurement Manager for Weyerhaeuser in Johnsonburg. Dan also has been a participant on our SIC since its inception. Across the country, Weyerhaeuser is a leader in the SFI movement and Dan has all of the qualities to guide us to new heights during these next couple of years.

TODD WALDRON has resigned as chairman of the PA SFI Training Sub-committee. Active in the PA SFI program since 1997, Todd never lost his enthusiasm for assisting us in any way he could. He is the type of person that every organization wishes they had more of. Todd and his wife left the Towanda area and his position at CraftMaster Manufacturing Incorporated to move back home to upstate New York. We wish him the very best. If it is true that good things happen to good people, Todd's future should be full of only good things. Replacing Todd as chairman of our training sub-committee is Pat Sherren, senior procurement forester for NewPage Corporation. Pat is no stranger to the PA SFI program, having been heavily involved in our training efforts for the past seven years. We are extremely fortunate to have Pat and we look forward to bigger and better things for our training program under his leadership.





Wood As A Source of Energy

On September 27 at the Danville Elks Club in Danville, and on September 28 at the Holiday Inn in DuBois, the PA Division of the Society of American Foresters will conduct a full-day forum to discuss "Energy and Wood - A Sustainable Development Opportunity." This program promises to broaden your knowledge on this vitally important topic. Recent progress suggests that wood as a feasible thermal energy source appears to have a high degree of likelihood. Everyone who uses wood for whatever purpose, owns forest lands, or makes their living from this vitally important resource will benefit from attending this program. A nominal fee will be charged to cover lunch and morning and afternoon breaks. Call the SFI office (814-867-9299 or toll-free at 888-734-9366) for additional information. For those participating in the PA SFI training program, eight hours of continuing education credits will be awarded for attending this forum.



Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® SIC Block 2 Schedule 2005: July 1- August 15, 2005

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
7/8/05	Environmental Logging	Jefferson County Conservation District Office	7/1/05	\$55.00
7/8/05	Logging Safety	Lycoming County Area	7/1/05	\$55.00
7/13/05	Environmental Logging	Appleton Paper, Roaring Spring	7/6/05	\$55.00
7/20/05	Logging Safety	Appleton Paper, Roaring Spring	7/13/05	\$55.00
7/21/05	First Aid/CPR	Kane Community Center, Kane, PA	7/14/05	\$55.00
7/26/05	Environmental Logging	Warriors Mark United Methodist Church, Huntington Co.	7/19/05	\$55.00
7/27/05	First Aid/CPR	Appleton Paper, Roaring Spring	7/20/05	TBD
7/27/05	Logging Safety	Warriors Mark United Methodist Church, Huntington Co.	7/20/05	\$55.00
7/28/05	First Aid/CPR	Warriors Mark United Methodist Church, Huntington Co.	7/21/05	TBD
7/28/05	Environmental Logging	Dauphin Conservation District Office	7/21/05	\$55.00
8/12/05	Environmental Logging	Restless Oaks Restaurant, McElhatten	8/5/05	\$30.00

PLEASE NOTE: Due to recent updates, *Environmental Logging* may now be taken for Continuing Education credit! If you have taken this course in the past, you may retake it for your yearly Continuing Education requirement! FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY! PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE FOR MORE DETAILS!

CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES (must complete one per year to remain current)

COURSE DATE	COURSE NAME	LOCATION	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	COST
7/6/05	Game of Logging 1	Caledonia, DCNR District 1	6/29/05	\$110.00
7/15/05	GPS for Forest Management	Lewis Lumber Products, Picture Rocks	7/8/05	\$75.00
7/22/05	GPS for Forest Management	Penfield, DCNR Office	7/15/05	\$75.00
7/22/05	Job Layout and Profitable Skidding	Pine Creek Lumber, Mill Hall, Clinton Co.	7/15/05	\$90.00
7/29/05	Game of Logging 1	Centre County Area	7/22/05	\$110.00
8/3/05	GPS for Forest Management	Family House Restaurant, Mifflintown	7/27/05	\$75.00
8/4/05	Game of Logging 2	Caledonia, DCNR District 1	7/28/05	\$110.00
8/5/05	GPS for Forest Management	Warriors Mark United Methodist Church, Huntington Co.	7/29/05	\$75.00

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, participant will receive further, more detailed information regarding the classes registered for. For the most up to date schedule, visit www.sfiopa.org.

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 \$ _____



You can
help us
keep the
power
flowing.

Trees and power lines just don't mix.

So if you're planning to harvest timber near our wires – or our substations, poles or other electric equipment – give us a call.

Our foresters will work with you to help ensure that the trees near our equipment are removed safely and without damaging our facilities. To us, that means no service interruptions. And for you, no costly repair bills.

Plus, it gives us the opportunity to evaluate whether high winds might eventually cause any uncut trees to come into contact with our facilities – which will help keep power flowing to you and the rest of our customers.

Before you work around our lines, give us a call at 814-534-4254 or send us an e-mail: penelecforestry@firstenergycorp.com.

Don't take your chances with safety or costly damage to our equipment. With your help, we can prevent tree-related service interruptions. Our customers will thank you.

FirstEnergy

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In Brief

Colorado Salvage Sale Draws No Bidders -- Forest Resources Association, Inc. Bulletin – April 7, 2005, Volume 7, Number 4

A thoughtful article in the March 26 issue of Colorado's Summit Daily News displays the conundrum in which the Southwestern industry is caught – and which may soon engulf more of the Intermountain West. Two salvage sales of beetle-killed timber in Colorado's Eagle County attracted no bidders because the long history of obstructed federal timber offerings in the region has reduced manufacturing, and especially logging, capacity levels incapable of processing it economically. A large supply of potentially valuable timber is not worth extracting; an important forest health project is set aside; and the beetle epidemic spreads. Reporter Cliff Thompson's account does an unusually adept job of highlighting the role that economics and resource-dependent communities play in sustaining a fragile resource. See www.summitdaily.com/article/20050326/NEWS/103260029.

FRA President Richard Lewis Notes BMP Compliance Costs -- Forest Resources Association, Inc. Bulletin – April 7, 2005, Vol 7, No. 4 Richard Lewis, FRA President

Last month, during a two-day stay in West Virginia, I learned that several forest products facilities, both pulp and solid wood, had curtailed operations or taken downtime over the previous three months because of wood shortages, due to the unusually wet winter and spring. The loggers who supply the mills in much of Appalachia have only been able to work about half of the days during this period because of voluntary BMP compliance. As one wood procurement manager from the region put it to me, "The current wood fiber shortages are the direct result of reduced logging capacity and compliance with SFI/BMPs – kind of like the conditions that preceded The Perfect Storm!"

That is not the story we get from the environmental organizations inside and outside the Washington Beltway, who look to practices from a century or more ago when they try to characterize logging today. The steps loggers have taken, during the past 90 days, to protect forests and soils have had a very substantial impact on their livelihoods and on those of their employees. I have to wonder how some of those organizations would feel if environmental restrictions cut their income by half for three months in a row – or permanently.

The point is not that we should repeal, or even ease, water-quality protections or other environmental restrictions on Appalachian logging. Quite the contrary: the adoption of BMPs is a success story we should be proud of. I do not think, however, that we should draw more attention to the people in rural West Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania – and wherever resources are extracted – who care enough about the environment they live and work in to take a big hit in their pocketbooks in order to protect forests and water quality when sustained poor weather conditions require them to take special measures. This kind of land ethic makes me proud to work for the FRA members.

There Is A Quiet Evolution Taking Place In "Penns Woods"

A Tribute to Pennsylvania's Professional Loggers

A Quiet Evolution is taking place in "Penns Woods". It is not the result of landowners, foresters, environmentalists or politicians. It is surprisingly the well-trained craftsman logger. Everyday, as a forestry consultant, I see their dedication to proper logging while protecting the residual stand of trees and the environment.

Loggers, more than ever before, are under the scrutiny of landowners, environmentalists and the general public. This is the direct result of suburban sprawl as more and more homes and businesses are being built in rural woodland settings. Due to forest fragmentation, logging areas have fewer contiguous acres and harvestable trees. Loggers are increasingly asked to test their skills in harvesting timber safely and efficiently in these suburban areas.

Recently, I set up and administered a timber sale for a client in a suburban area. Following a walk through the nine acre woodlot, I recommended an improvement timber harvest. The owner, being very sensitive about his woods, contemplated long and hard about letting a logger into his woods. What would his woods look like after timber harvesting? I did not try to influence him one way or the other but simply pointed out the advantages and disadvantages of conducting a timber harvest. In my professional opinion an improvement harvest would bring the owner a nice income while still maintaining a good stocking of quality trees for future growth. What finally convinced the owner to go ahead with a timber sale was I believe three reasons. First, he would receive an income from his timber; second, there would be a good stand of healthy, quality trees left fully occupying the site and; third, and possibly most important was that only well-trained loggers would be harvesting his timber.

I explained that I constantly see the excellent work of loggers who have taken advantage of many training courses being offered on safe and efficient logging. This was not true two decades ago. It was at that time Nortim, a provider of Workman's Compensation for the loggers, formed the Timber Harvesting Council (THC), a non-profit company to provide logger training in Pennsylvania. Twelve hundred loggers received training under the THC program. Most participants will tell you the training was well worth the time and cost. Workman's Compensation rates sharply declined due to fewer accidents and the knowledge gained resulted in lower operating costs, less labor intensive operations, higher retention rates of loggers and improved ability to work with landowners, public and the media.

In 1997, the Sustainable Forestry Initiative of Pennsylvania (SFI), took over the training from the Timber Harvesting Council and continues to offer a wide range of logger training courses supporting sustainable forestry principles. Timberland owners and "Penns Woods" are the beneficiaries of having nearly 2,500 trained loggers. These loggers are dedicated to protecting the environment while harvesting timber efficiently and safely.

I was delighted with the selection of both the logging crew and trucking contractor. The logging crew leader was from a third-generation logging family

who operates the skidder and the second member, the tree feller, was also very experienced. Both had attended many logging courses. The trucking contractor was also very experienced and owned three relatively new tri-axel log trucks equipped with hydraulic loaders.

After a delay of three months due to wet weather, the crew began the first harvesting operation. The owner and I checked on the crew the first day. The tree feller was preparing to fell a large 28 inch diameter red oak tree (measured 4 ½ feet above ground) with 60 feet of clear bole and a massive top. The tree leaned towards the boundary line and if felled in that direction could damage several valuable cherry and maple trees. If the feller could swing the tree on the stump about 20 degrees from the direction of lean there was an opening where little damage would occur and the entire tree would remain on the property. It was apparent the feller liked the challenge of dropping the tree into the opening. I was surprised to see him make the first cut with the chainsaw less than 6 inches from the ground where due to butt swell the tree was 54 inches in diameter. The feller made a series of cuts around the tree removing several wedges of wood. He then notched the tree removing a 45 degree wedge in the direction he wanted the tree to fall. Then with the use of plunge cuts he formed the exact width of the remaining hinge of holding wood. He next cut out the center of the hinge to minimize fiber pull. Using three wedges he nearly completed the back cut. There he stopped to be sure we were a safe distance from the tree. He then completed the back cut and quickly retreated at a pre-selected 45 degree escape route. With precision, the huge tree turned the 20 degrees on the stump and fell into the designated clearing with a loud crash. The owner and I both congratulated the feller on his skill in felling the tree. He smiled and his only comment was, "that was a tough one." It took the feller 25 minutes to plan and fell the tree. The feller's job was not done as he had to determine where to cut the logs to obtain maximum value from the tree. He first cut a 22 foot veneer log, followed by a 16 foot prime quality log, a 16 foot number one sawlog and finally a 12 foot number two sawlog. The market value of the oak tree was estimated at \$1,000. A costly dollar penalty would have resulted if the feller had carelessly miscut the logs. I strongly believe that without proper training, the crew would not have been able to fell the tree in the designated clearing.

The red oak tree now having been cut into logs was skidded to the log landing by the crew leader. He operates a rubber tired skidding tractor, articulated in the middle, to make maneuvering through the woods easier. He carefully backed the skidder close to the stump where he attached choker cables to each log and the mainline cable. Retracting the winch cable draws the logs to the rear of the skidder and lifts the end of the logs off the ground. The operator then carefully made his way to the main skid trail and then to the log landing.

(continued on page 9)

Method for Extracting Wood Components Aids Biofuels Development

Researchers at the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF) have devised a new method for separating wood into its components, and the discovery is likely to be a boon for both the region's forest products industry and the state's efforts to develop alternative sources of bioenergy.

"We know our sources of fossil fuel aren't going to last forever," said Thomas Amidon, chair of ESF's Paper Science and Engineering Department. "The new biorefinery process will allow us to substitute a sustainable energy source: wood."

The process separates wood into its components by mixing ordinary wood chips with water and then heating the mixture at high temperatures. After heating, the chips are removed, and the remaining watery solution is then forced through a membrane that separates it into its major components: the polysaccharide sugars cellulose and xylan. In paper mills, cellulose becomes pulp for use in making paper, whereas xylan primarily gets dissolved in the pulping process.

Outside the paper-making process, however, Amidon said that xylan can be used to make ethanol, a sustainable fuel.

"The real value of xylan was never exploited," he said. "Once fermented, the sugar can produce ethanol, which can be used in cars instead of, or in combination with, traditional gasoline."

And that's not all. In addition to extracting these two sugars from wood, through the same type of filtering process, scientists also can extract acetic acid from the wood and use it to manufacture polyvinyl acetate, a plastic used in a wide variety of consumer goods. In fact, according to Amidon, the commercial value of acetic acid is nearly three times that

of ethanol-45 cents per pound as opposed to 18 cents per pound.

Amidon acknowledges that the potential for this new process for separating wood into its components won't be realized if it cannot be incorporated into existing pulping facilities. Thus, he and his ESF colleagues are already working with both forest products to do just that.

"The traditional, Kraft method of pulp production enables companies to obtain half of the value of the raw materials that they bring in," said Amidon. "This is low compared to the potential, so the American paper industry has long been interested in the development of new processes that will help them get more valuable products out of the materials processed at pulp mills."

International Paper, the world's largest paper company, has stated in a letter of support that the process has significant promise of increasing the profitability of their operations. The company also pledged its partnership in exploring technology transfer in the biorefinery work.

Another factor that makes this process so attractive in places like New York State is the widespread availability of raw materials.

"The trees are here, and they can provide year-round employment," said Amidon. Plus, the process works well with all types of hardwoods, including the abundant maples found throughout the state's forests. He added, however, that more research is being done with softwoods.

Yet another advantage, said Amidon, is the reduced cost of storing and transporting it as compared to other agricultural crops used in energy production, such as corn. "Trees can be shipped and stored economically, and they are more efficient energy collectors than annual crops. Further, after the desired

components are extracted, the residue can be burned or gasified for combined heat and power uses."

To that end, researchers at ESF are experimenting with willow biomass crops for use in commercial energy production. "Research shows that the process works for biomass willow chips," said Amidon. "If you consider the concept of removing sugars and acetic acid from willow biomass and then burning or gasifying what's left over from that process, the economics of growing willow as an energy crop are significantly improved."

In light of these economic benefits, coupled with the need for new sources of energy, Amidon sees this process as an important part of a sustainable future wherein paper companies, in partnership with biofuels companies, play a role in the development of biofuels like ethanol.

"A sustainable society is based on renewable resources," said Amidon. "Getting there is going to take the development of a biorefinery process that uses inexpensive, renewable materials and converts them to energy. The closest thing we have to these refineries today are pulping facilities." ■

For more information, contact Thomas Amidon, chair, Department of Paper Science and Engineering, 205 Walters Hall, State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse, NY 13210; (315) 470-6524; teamidon@esf.edu.

Reprinted with permission from the Forestry Source, April 2005, Vol. 10 No. 4. Joe Smith, author.

Time Inc. Accepts Wood Produced by American Tree Farm System Certified Groups

Washington, D.C. – The American Forest Foundation (AFF) announces that Time Inc. will accept wood from Group Certified Tree Farms, as certified content meeting the standards of its CSF (Certified Sustainable Forests) program, based on an agreement to revise some interpretations of the Tree Farm Standard. This agreement followed lengthy and productive discussion of interpretations, particularly with respect to water quality and Best Management Practices (BMPs), special sites, and biodiversity.

AFF is committed to continuous improvement of its Standards in these and other areas and will report to Time Warner and other stakeholders on a quarterly basis about our progress.

To achieve Tree Farm group certification, a full, third party audit of the applicant must be completed according to the protocols set by the American Tree Farm System (ATFS).

ATFS Group Certification verifies, through independent assessment, that groups of landowners are individually practicing sound and sustainable forest management.

“We are very pleased that Time Inc. is accepting ATFS Group Certified wood. We’re committed to our landowners and the group certification process. Many of our landowners will benefit from this arrangement,” stated Bob Simpson, Senior Vice President, Forestry Programs, American Forest Foundation.

ATFS began its Group Certification process in 2002 with four pilot programs. Following these years of growth and development, the ATFS Group Certification program has welcomed 1.4 million acres of private forestland into ATFS. More than 80 accredited lead auditors have been trained to conduct the crucial third party group certification audits.

“Certification is a complicated process that has to work for forest owners as well as manufacturers and their customers – if it’s going to work at all,” said Laurence Wiseman, President, AFF. “We share Time Inc.’s commitment to continuous improvement and welcome the opportunity to expand the scope and scale of our field indicators to determine conformance with the Standards.”

The American Tree Farm System, (ATFS) is a national program that promotes the sustainable management of forests through education and outreach to private forest landowners. Founded in 1941, ATFS has 30 million acres of privately owned forestland and 53,000 family forest owners who are committed to excellence in forest stewardship. Tree Farmers manage their forestlands for wood, water, wildlife and recreation with assistance from 5,200 volunteer foresters.

The American Forest Foundation is a non-profit organization working for healthy forests, quality environmental education, and informed decision-making about our communities and our world. Our vision is to be recognized for our commitment to sustainable forestry, quality environmental education, and wildlife habitat and watershed protection.

For more information on ATFS Groups Certification, contact Liz Yolin, 202.463.2421



Check out our website! www.sfiopa.org

Do you have access to the internet? If so, the PA SFI SIC website harbors a wealth of training information! Here are some things that you can find out by visiting our site:

- Is your PA SFI training status current? Visit the *Current Cardholders* page to see if your name is listed.
- The PA SFI training calendar is on our website and is updated weekly. Check it out for the most current information!
- Visit the *Course Descriptions* page to get a summary of all of our training programs.
- View past issues of the PA SFI Newsletter in PDF format!
- Find links to many of the PA SFI Partner and Supporter companies' websites.
- View and print several of our important forms such as the Timber Unit Sustainability Assessment Form (TUSAF), Timber Harvesting Assessment Form (THA) and the Inconsistent Practices Form.
- Find out more about the PA SFI's Master Logger Program and Forest Landowner Outreach Program!

Training Program Fees:

Some training program fees have been adjusted. They are as follows:

- Logging Safety, \$55.00
- Environmental Logging, \$55.00
- Job Layout & Profitable Skidding, \$90.00
- GPS For Forest Management, \$75.00
- Intro. to Forest Management, \$60.00
- Advanced Forest Management, \$60.00
- Wildlife, \$60.00
- Business Management, \$60.00
- Advanced Environmental Logging, \$55.00
- Game of Logging 1-4, \$110.00



CORE TRAINING COMPLETED

Since January 2005, the following individuals have Completed Core Level training with the PA SFI. Core Level Courses are First Aid & CPR, Logging Safety and Environmental Logging.

Lee S. Berkeley	Duncansville
Scott Belin	Emporium
Danny Bilger	Shirleysburg
William Blackburn	Shanksville
Corey Brumbaugh	Shirleysburg
Wesley Brumbaugh	Shirleysburg
Ronald Buzard	Kane
Kasey Chaney	Snow Shoe
Reuben F. Cunningham	Huntingdon
Bob Currey	Drumore
Matt Engle	Mill Hall
Joe Esposti	Grampian
Roy Fetzer	Grampian
Gary Gordon	Guys Mills
Matthew J. Gordon	Townville
Darrick Graham	Mill Hall
Larry Graham	Shinglehouse
Thomas Hartman	Kane
Steve Heckert	Port Royal
Jerry Himes, Jr.	Milroy
Michael Hoffman	Mt. Pleasant Mills
Seth Hoffman	Mt. Pleasant Mills
Peter Johnson	Laurelton
Lavon Kauffman	Belleville
Suzanne Klinger	Johnsonburg
David Osten Laughman	Spring Grove
Darren R. Lippert	Conneautville
Shane Lister	Kane
Gregg Lucas	Hyner
Eldon McBride	Slippery Rock
Kerry Mulkin	Shinglehouse
Tim Nipple	Mifflintown
Tracy Nipple	Mifflintown
Donald Payne	Kane
Daryl Peachey	Reedsville
Ezra F. Peachey	Reedsville
Shannon Probst	Mill Hall
John Sheaffer	McVeytown
Mark Sheaffer	McVeytown
Andy Spigelmyer	Mifflintown
Mike Spigelmyer	Mifflintown
Todd Spigelmyer	Mifflintown
Aaron M. Swarey	Mill Creek
Chris A. Swarey	Mill Creek

Samual Topper	Kane
Dwight Weaver	Strongstown
Brad Wendt	Winfield
Jeff Wettlaufer	Forksville
Larry Winter	Cogan Station
Jonathan Wirth	Mill Hall
Raymond E. Yoder	Belleville
Wesley Zepp	Hanover
David M. Zook	Allensville

Continuing Education Courses Completed Since January 2005

GPS: PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS FOR FOREST MANAGEMENT

John Donaldson	Deposit NY
Scott House	Mansfield
Jeff Jordan	Muncy Valley
Richard Jordan	Muncy Valley
James McDonald	Orson
James Roberts	Wysox
Kendall Scott	Montrose
Brian Severcool	Tunkhannock
Charlotte Severcool	Tunkhannock
Jack C. Strange	Mainesburg
Travis Sweeney	Kingsley

ENVIRONMENTAL LOGGING

Richard A. Andrus	Emporium
Scott Andrus	Emporium
Brian Bricker	Leola
Roy Callihan	New Paris
Carol Custead	Meadville
Joe Graves	Shinglehouse
Garth Hahn	Boyertown
John Killinger	Mill Hall
Francis Klingler	Biglerville
Neal Klingler	Biglerville
Darryl Kurtz	Newmanstown
Jay Kurtz	Newmanstown
Doug Lee	Grampian
Dave Lewis	Emporium
Darren Lippert	Conneautville
William Lyon	Emporium
Bruce Meeker	Moshannon
David Shaffer	Hyndman
James H. Shaffer	Hyndman
Jedidiah Sorg	Emporium
Richard Sorg	Emporium
Ted J. Summers	Shippensburg
Ted Wakefield	Grand Valley

FOREST HEALTH

Michael Baker	Fayetteville
Alan D. Benner	Brookville
Brad A. Bittner	Brockway
Roy Bucher	Reedsville
Scott R. Cary	Northumberland
James A. Chapman	Youngsville
John Daugherty	Knox
Gene Desposito	Bradford
Robert Domville	Warren
Dan Evans	Johnsonburg
Christopher Guth	Endeavor
Mike Hale	Westfield
Steven Hawkes	Brookville
Curtis J. Hollabaugh	Garland
Jon Howard	Tunkhannock
Neil Itle	Martinsburg
Peter Johnson	Laurelton
Jerry Jordan	Marienville
Fred Kilmer, Jr.	Tunkhannock
Mike A. McEntire	Smethport
Nick Parker	Olean NY
David Schultz	Wellsboro
Malcolm D. Waskiewicz	Coudersport
Larry Way	Clearfield
Stephen P. Yokum	Bedford

HARDWOOD LOG GRADING

William Anderson	Reynoldsville
Corey L. Brumbaugh	Shirleysburg
Wesley E. Brumbaugh	Shirleysburg
Richard Falciola	Stanhope NJ
Ben Fenstermaker	Summerville
Kevin Forsythe	Brookville
Paul M. Fultz	Belleville
Jason Gould	Clarion
Robb Greer	Union City
Mike Powell	Spring Mills
Jonathan Russ	State College
Ty Ryan	Smithmill
Rodney Shaffer	Hyndman
Mike Whitehall	Howard

LOGGING COST

Norman Asel	Kane
Travis Asel	Kane
Ray Bange	McConnellsburg
Matt Beaver	Williamsport
Ryan Billock	Brockway
Brian D. Bricker	Ephrata
Bob Cappone	Big Run
Andrew Carlson	Kane

Greg Denochick	Morrisdale
Dan Fleeger	Reynoldsville
Calvin Gardner	St. Marys
Amos Gebhard	Westfield
Thomas E. Hanes	St. Marys
Troy A. Hanes	Benezette
Jerry Himes, Jr.	Milroy
Carl Huss	Brookville
Shad A. Jaworskyj	Spring
Church	
Steve Jilk	Endeavor
Fred P. Keeple	Sarver
David Kiehl	Kane
Suzanne Klinger	Johnsonburg
Donald T. Kovalick	Frenchville
John Lavavasaur	Coudersport
Allen F. Leigey	Benezette
Mark D. Maines	Morrisdale
Lee McCoy	Grove City
Alan J. Metzler	Belleville
Rodney E. Monn	Shippensburg
James L. Pearson	Russell
Dan Peterson	Endeavor
Mark J. Selfridge	Curwensville
Rick E. Shaffer	Brookville
James Snyder, Jr.	Kane
Perry Swanson	Kane
Terry Swanson	Kane
Dave Trimpey	Kane
Benjamin Williams	Weedville
John A. Williams	Kane

MISCELLANEOUS COURSES

Dwane Barkman	Clearville
Ronald Bennett	Biglerville
Kasey Chaney	Snow Shoe
Brian Deeb	Hershey
Victor Fabrycki	Biglerville
Larry Gantz	Biglerville
Darick Graham	Mill Hall
Josh Hobbins	Mill Hall
Marvin E. Hoover	Karthaus
Marvin R. Hoover	Karthaus
Josh Lenker	Lebanon
Matt McCanna	Lebanon
Shawn McCanna	Lebanon
Jeffery Nicols	Tunkhannock
Shannon Probst	Mill Hall
Richard Starr	Brookville
Michael Waldron	Biglerville
Malcolm Waskiewicz	Coudersport

(continued from page 5)

By the time the operator returned to the cutting area the feller had felled two or three additional trees and bucked them into logs. In one instance the logs were in a very wet area. The skidder operator was able to avoid deep rutting by maneuvering his skidder onto higher dry ground. Then, using the full length of the winch cable, he hooked the logs to the mainline and proceeded to winch the logs to the skidder with very little ground disturbance.

Another technique the crew used which I like is to fell the trees on top of each other – often as many as four trees in a pile avoiding damage to tree saplings and reproduction. It also facilitates the owner being able to cut firewood from the tops. It is aesthetically pleasing to the eye by giving the appearance of fewer tops scattered throughout the harvest area.

When a rain storm occurred the crew volunteered to stop harvesting for two days until the site was dry enough to resume harvesting. While harvesting the timber, the crew did not appear to hurry. This was due to good planning, safety first attitude and high skill level that resulted in the crew still meeting its goal of two truckloads of logs per day. The crew also removed a very rotten large black cherry tree close to the house without charge to the owner.

This logging operation modeled the knowledge of the forester, the commitment of the timber buyer, and the expertise of the logging crew. Working together they completed a logging operation assuring the future financial potential of the woodlot while protecting the environment in an urban setting.

This is but one example of how our well-trained and dedicated loggers through skillful harvesting of trees are having a large and beneficial impact on the future of "Penns Woods". Logging is a disruptive affair even under the best of circumstances, but there is a world of difference between a good and bad logging operation. It also can mean the difference between waiting ten years for another timber harvest or fifty years.

I strongly recommend that timberland owners only permit well trained, experienced loggers to harvest timber on their property. It's likely that several excellent logging crews are harvesting timber in your area. This is because many more buyers of timber are now encouraging logging crew members to attend ongoing training sessions to attain improved technical and communication skills to meet the increasing complexities of suburban timber harvesting. ■

Dick Wallace is a Forestry Consultant from North East, PA. He is a past president of the The Pennsylvania Forestry Association and the author of the book, "Building Family Wealth by Investing in Rural Land and Trees".

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SFI of PA In Action

The first half of 2005 has been a very busy time for the PA SFI program. The following pictures capture but a small part of the many activities we either conducted or participated in. Outreach in the form of logger training programs, being present at several forest landowner conferences, and seizing opportunities for interacting with the public are vitally important components of our mission to promote sustainable forestry practices and create an understanding of the vital role proper timber harvesting plays in conserving our forest ecosystem.



The Kane Area Logging Safety Committee Meeting which was held at the Johnsonburg Fire Hall in April garnered record attendance. Loggers were most eager to hear and see what is available in terms of the latest mechanized timber harvesting equipment - processes that when used properly promote both safety and forest sustainability.



Keith Craig (far right) of the PA Hardwoods Development Council, talks to some visitors at the PA SFI display at the PA Farm Show in January.



Pat Sherren (facing camera in background), a senior procurement forester for NewPage Corporation, formerly MeadWestvaco, conducts the outside portion of Environmental Logging training near Warriors Mark.



On the left are visitors to the SFI display at the Northwest Forest Landowners Conference which was held at the Behrend College of Penn State in January. On the right is a similar scene which took place at the Forest Landowners Conference held in March at Clarion University.





Mike Wolfe (shown), an extension forester with the Penn State Cooperative Extension office in Ebensburg, assisted SFI program manager Ken Manno in a visit to the Baker Elementary School in Altoona.



Effective and meaningful training programs are critically important to the PA SFI efforts. Here, the PA SFI Training Committee discusses the results of the first block of training in 2005, and what we need to focus on in block two.



Dr. Steve Bick of the State University of New York at Syracuse, College of Environmental Science and Forestry, instructs a Logging Costs course in Kane in April.



Ken Roberts, senior procurement forester for NewPage Corporation, instructs Logging Safety training in Warriors Mark in March.



Facing the camera are Tanya Lelo, resource technician with the Clinton County Conservation District and Chip Grose, of the Water Management Program Section of the PA Department of Environmental Protection. Tanya and Chip assisted Jonathan Wirth of Pine Creek Lumber Company in Mill Hall in conducting an Environmental Logging training program near Woolrich (Clinton County) in April.



The PA SFI program display and materials were popular at the Northeast PA Forest Landowner Conference held at the Luzerne County Community College in Nanticoke in May.





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Martin Melville Awarded Newest Master Logger

At a ceremony on May 6, Martin Melville of Centre Hall was formally recognized as the newest Master Logger in Pennsylvania. Over forty people attended to help Martin celebrate this remarkable achievement.

The accompanying photograph shows PA SFI Program Chairman Dan Evans (R) of Weyerhaeuser in Johnsonburg presenting a certificate to Martin. Martin has been a professional logger for more than twenty years and has established a reputation of abiding by sustainable forestry practices. Congratulations, Martin, and we know that you will continue to consider what is in the best interest of the forest resource in all of your timber harvesting activities.

