



Winter 2016 (Issue # 37)

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* Denotes SFI® Certified Program Participant

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Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee (SIC)

NEWS

Pennsylvania Receives 2015 SFI Implementation Committee Achievement Award

The Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) Implementation Committee was presented with the 17th annual SFI Implementation Committee Achievement Award at the 2015 SFI Annual Conference in Olympic Valley, California on October 7th. The purpose of the award is to recognize SFI Implementation Committees (SICs) for outstanding work in implementing the SFI program, making a difference on-the-ground advancing sustainable forestry and promoting the benefits of forest and forest products certified to the SFI Standard.

The Pennsylvania SIC was selected for this award primarily for our work at adapting the Professional Timber Harvester Training Program into an entry-level program for aspiring logging or forest industry workers and incorporating it into the curriculum of high school programs in Pennsylvania.

“What are the risks to the supply chain, to our economy, to forests in general, if we don’t secure a future generation to care for our forests and to harvest them responsibly?” said Kathy Abusow, SFI Inc. President and CEO. “The Pennsylvania Committee members are thought leaders when it comes to youth training.”

For the second year in a row, students in the Natural Resource Management Career and Technical Program at Central Mountain High School in Mill Hall received the SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training credential. The training is provided through a partnership with the Pennsylvania SIC that allows students in the program to complete it as part of their regular curriculum at no additional cost to them or the school. The training is the same that loggers in Pennsylvania are required to complete to maintain their status as harvesting professionals recognized by SFI.

The Pennsylvania SIC has a long history of expertise in logger training. More than 7,000 individuals have participated in the Pennsylvania SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training Program since it began in 1995, representing more than 130,000 hours of combined training time. About 700 participants maintain a current training status each year, and some individuals have completed more than 100 hours of training.

Pennsylvania SIC member Paul Lyskava accepted the award on behalf of the Committee. This is the second time that the Pennsylvania SIC has been presented with the annual SFI Implementation Committee Achievement Award; it also received the 3rd annual award in 2001.



Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) Program

SFI Inc. (www.sfiprogram.org) is an independent non-profit organization that is solely responsible for the internationally recognized Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) program. The program promotes sustainable forest management, improved forestry practices, and responsible purchasing of forest products through its forest certification standard.

SFI is the largest single forest certification standard in the world, with more than 250 million acres certified. The Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee (SIC) is one of 34 SICs spread across North America that responds to local needs and issues through the program at the state, provincial, or regional level. SICs promote the SFI forest standard as a means to broaden the practice of responsible forestry and achieve on-the-ground progress. Since 1995, the Pennsylvania SIC has worked with local conservation groups, government agencies, forestry and professional associations, landowner groups, and many others in providing leadership and sharing best practices to improve forest management on both certified and un-certified lands.

Certified SFI® Program Participants Supporting the PA SIC

These companies participate in the SFI® Program and are certified to be in conformance with the SFI 2015-2020 Standard. They provide direct involvement and financial support to the PA SFI® Implementation Committee (SIC).

Domtar Paper Co., LLC

Forest Investment Associates

Georgia-Pacific, LLC

Glatfelter

Hancock Forest Management

Molpus Timberlands Mgmt., LLC

Verso Corporation

Weaber, Inc.

Weyerhaeuser

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2015 Program Highlights

2015 marked the 20th anniversary for the SFI Program and the Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee (SIC). So in addition to our usual efforts we took time to look back and celebrate our successes over the last two decades, recognize the importance of sustainable forests in a record-breaking way, and look ahead at how we should focus our efforts in the future.

- The Pennsylvania SIC hosted a 20th anniversary celebration at the 2015 Timber Show on June 5, 2015. The SIC gathered with former staff, current SFI Program Participants, SIC Partners & Supporters, our training participants and others to recognize and reflect on the collective history and the many successes of our program.
- The Pennsylvania legislature unanimously passed HR 375 and SR 144, recognizing the SIC's 20th anniversary and declaring June 5, 2015 to be "Pennsylvania SFI Day" across the Commonwealth. SFI Inc. President and CEO Kathy Abusow commented that "This strong recognition from the state government is a fitting tribute to the 20-year history of progress and leadership on sustainability from the Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee."
- On May 20th the SIC enthusiastically engaged in a successful attempt to set the Guinness World Record for the most trees planted in one hour simultaneously by small groups. Two Pennsylvania teams helped set the record by joining with more than 1,000 other volunteers across the United States and Canada to plant 202,935 trees during the 1 hour event.
- The Pennsylvania SIC also used the opportunity to look ahead to the future of our program. We reached out to our network of partners, supporters and other various stakeholders seeking input on how we should focus our efforts in continuing the mission of promoting sustainable forestry in Pennsylvania.

The Pennsylvania SIC continues to provide high quality educational opportunities through our training program by

partnering with experts in related fields. Last year Penn State professors, extension educators, wildlife specialists, staff from numerous county conservation districts, and experts from the logging and finance industries helped supply professional training on sustainable forest management, chainsaw felling safety, best management practices, habitat management, log quality optimization, and business management.

103	Individuals completed core training and received or renewed their PA SFI training cards
621	Individuals attended training
1,074	Training units recorded (one person taking two courses = 2 training units)
58	Training programs conducted
742	Individuals hold current training cards (12/31/2015)

- New hands-on courses on hydraulic and diesel engine systems operation, diagnostics and maintenance safety were offered in partnership with Penn College of Technology.
- 67% of fall training participants indicated they gained a "moderate amount" or "great deal" of new knowledge through training.
- 85% of fall training participants indicated they likely will or absolutely would use ideas or practices presented in training within the next year.
- We added a new online database that is publicly accessible through the PA SFI website for all our training participant records— Check yours today: www.sfiopfa.org/search

ALIFT Helps Injured Loggers

ALIFT (Assisting Loggers Immediate Fund Trust) is a new program formed to provide rapid financial help to individuals involved in logging accidents. When accidents occur injury victims and their families need help, but insurance money often takes time to reach them.

The program is currently operating in NE Pennsylvania, but would like to eventually expand statewide. Those interested in helping to support injured loggers can send a check or contact ALIFT at 17 Lake View Drive, Tunkhannock, PA 18657, or (570) 836-5825, or alifthelp@gmail.com

PA SFI® Implementation Committee Partners

SIC Partners are not SFI certified, but help to promote sustainable forestry practices throughout Pennsylvania and pledge a contribution annually to the Pennsylvania SIC based on mill production from PA forest resources.

Blue Ox Timber Resources
Brojack Lumber Co.
Cedar Grove Lumber, LLC
Cowan Lumber
Deer Park Lumber, Inc.
Dwight Lewis Lumber Company, Inc.
Firth Maple Products, Inc.
Fry Pallet Company
Heacock Lumber Company
Hoffman Brothers Lumber, Inc.
JM Wood Products LLC
Jeld-Wen, Inc.
Kern Brothers Lumber Company
Kort Forestry
Lee Brothers Lumber Company
Matson Lumber Company
Mt. Airy Lumber Co.
Ordie Price's Sawmill
Patterson Lumber Company, Inc.
Pine Creek Lumber Co.
RAM Forest Products, Inc.
Renno Brothers Lumber Co.
Salem Hardwood, Inc.
Spigelmyer Wood Products, Inc.
Trumco Forest Products
Soap Stone Sawmill

PA SFI® Implementation Committee Supporters

SIC Supporters are not SFI certified, but help to promote sustainable forestry practices and pledge meaningful contributions to the Pennsylvania SIC.

Appvion, Inc.
Bingaman & Son Lumber Co., Inc.
Brooks Site Services, LLC
Brownlee Lumber, Inc.
Cochran & Zandi Lumber, LLC
Cummings Lumber Co, Inc.
Gutchess Lumber, Co., Inc.
Hobbess Forestry Services
Horizon Wood Products, Inc.
Klinger Family Sawmill
Metzler Forest Products LLC
Mick Brothers Lumber, Inc.
P & S Lumber Company
RJ Hoffman & Sons, Inc.
Rorabaugh Lumber Company
St. Marys Lumber Co., Inc.
Sylvandale Forestry
W.J. Cox Associates
Wheeland Lumber Company, Inc.

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Draft Pipeline Infrastructure Task Force Report Gives Consideration to Certified Lands

In the next decade, Pennsylvania will undergo a substantial pipeline infrastructure build-out to transport gas and related byproducts from thousands of wells throughout the state.

To prepare for this, Governor Tom Wolf formed a Pipeline Infrastructure Task Force in July of last year to develop a host of recommendations, for both industry and DEP to consider in order to make the siting, permitting, construction and operation of natural gas pipelines in Pennsylvania environmentally sound and transparent to the public. DEP may also use the recommendations to develop new policies or propose new regulations.

A current draft of the report includes a recommendation to give special consideration to protected/designated lands in pipeline siting. The recommendation states that these lands include certified lands, but does not specifically identify the Sustainable Forestry Initiative®.

The recommendation states that *“protected lands should be avoided if possible or special consideration should be applied based on the land’s certification requirements. However, if avoidance is not possible the landowner should be compensated for the loss of value associated with the certification. BMPs should be implemented in accordance with the protected or certification standards of those lands.”*

A public comment period at the end of last year elicited more than 1,500 comments. The Task Force is preparing to issue its final report to Governor Wolf in February 2016.

4(D) Rule Finalized for Northern Long-eared Bats

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has announced the final 4(d) rule as part of protecting the Northern Long-eared Bat (NLEB) as a federally threatened species.

There are changes in the rule’s treatment of tree removals in areas with white-nose syndrome (including all of PA), compared to the proposed rule announced in April.

- Any activities that take a bat from a hibernacula is banned.

- The prohibition against cutting around “a known, occupied maternity roost tree or other trees” has been reduced from a 0.25 mile radius to a radius of 150 feet, during the June 1 - July 31 pup season.
- The rule generally bans logging within 0.25 mile of known northern long-eared bat hibernacula at any time of the year (The draft rule only banned logging within a quarter mile of a known, *occupied* hibernacula).
- The 4(d) rule no longer prohibits the conversion of mature hardwood forests into pine plantations or non-forested treatments.

In all cases, take is allowed to remove a NLEB from human structures. Occupied roost trees may be removed when necessary to address a direct threat to human life and property. In other cases, a permit for incidental take may be needed.

Project proponents should complete due diligence to determine available data on maternity roost trees and hibernacula. Private landowners are not required to conduct surveys on their lands.

The final 4(d) rule will go into effect on February 16, 2016. For additional information, see the NLEB homepage:

www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nlba/index.html

Is Your Logger SFI® Trained?

Forest landowners and resource professionals planning for a future timber harvest should consider the following:

- Since 1995, the Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee (SIC) has trained more than 7,000 individuals through its Professional Timber Harvester Training Program.
- Participants know OSHA safety requirements and have received comprehensive training in forest stewardship and best management practices (BMPs) to protect water quality.
- Major forest land managers such as the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry as well as certified SFI Participant and other forest products companies recognize the value and require their loggers to be SFI trained. Do you?

www.sfiopa.org/search



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The Sustainable Forestry Initiative is a service of SFI, Inc.

PA SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training Program

The PA SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training Program is geared towards commercial timber harvesters; however, it is open to any individual interested in participating. Courses are offered in the spring (mid-March through mid-May) and the fall (mid-September through mid-November) at locations across Pennsylvania each year.

Learn more:

www.sfiopa.org/requirements

Register for classes:

www.sfiopa.org/register

Find trained loggers/review training records:

www.sfiopa.org/search



Facebook.com/PennsylvaniaSIC

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Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee (SIC)

NEWS

New Report Underscores Importance of SFI Logger Training in BMP Implementation

Last year, the National Association of State Foresters (NASF) released a report on forestry best management practices (BMPs) for water quality.

“BMPs are an effective way of protecting water quality and preventing pollution,” said Jim Karels, Florida State Forester and NASF President. “Much of the nation’s drinking water originates from forests and these measures ensure that those lands continue to provide such an important societal need.”

The report confirms that best management practices programs are effective and working as intended to protect water quality.

One of the key findings from the report was that forest certification programs

such as the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) have made important contributions to improved BMP implementation through logger training, landowner outreach, and water quality requirements.

The report states that “In all scenarios, state forestry agencies report that logger training programs have proven to be a key element in strengthening the acceptance, adoption, and use of forestry BMPs.”

The Pennsylvania SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training Program has offered high quality training programs on forestry BMPs throughout Pennsylvania for the last 20 years, and will continue to do so. Be sure to check our latest training schedule for upcoming courses.

Timber harvesting currently accounts for less than two tenths of one percent of the state’s 15,882 impaired stream miles, thanks in part to our loggers using BMPs.



Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative®

Implementation Committee

Professional Timber Harvester Training Program

2016 Spring Training Schedule

SAVE TIME, REGISTER ONLINE AT: www.sfiopa.org/register

To avoid course cancellations, pre-registration and payment for all classes is required by the registration deadline. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis

CORE TRAINING :

Individuals must complete *Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials*, *Game of Logging - Level 1*, and provide proof of current *First Aid & CPR* certification within a 2-year period to receive a PA SFI® Professional Timber Harvester Training Card. Refer to the Training Program Policy for complete details on training requirements at: www.sfiopa.org/requirements.

- *Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials and Basic First Aid & Adult CPR do NOT qualify for continuing education credit*
- *If you have not taken Game of Logging – Level 1 in the last 5 years, you can attend GOL-1 for CE Credit*

Course Date	Time	Course Name (Course Descriptions on Registration form)	Location	Cost ❖	Register By	
03/23/16	Wed	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Mercer	\$ 85.00	03/16/16
03/30/16	Wed	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Spring Grove	\$ 85.00	03/23/16
03/30/16	Wed	9:00 a.m.	Basic First Aid and Adult CPR (4 hours)	Smethport	\$ 50.00	03/23/16
04/01/16	Fri	8:00 a.m.	Basic First Aid and Adult CPR (4 hours)	Hanover	\$ 50.00	03/25/16
04/07/16	Thurs	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Hereford	\$ 95.00	03/31/16
04/08/16	Fri	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Hereford	\$ 95.00	04/01/16
04/08/16	Fri	8:00 a.m.	Basic First Aid and Adult CPR (4 hours)	Hanover	\$ 50.00	04/01/16
04/12/16	Tues	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Laurelton	\$ 95.00	04/05/16
04/13/16	Wed	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Laurelton	\$ 85.00	04/06/16
04/20/16	Wed	9:00 a.m.	Basic First Aid and Adult CPR (4 hours)	Johnsonburg	\$ 50.00	04/13/16
04/26/16	Tues	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Titusville	\$ 95.00	04/19/16
05/03/16	Tues	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Penfield	\$ 95.00	04/26/16
05/04/16	Wed	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Johnsonburg	\$ 85.00	04/27/16
05/10/16	Tues	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Noxen	\$ 95.00	05/03/16
05/14/16	Sat	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Mehoopany	\$ 85.00	05/07/16
05/17/16	Tues	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Huntingdon	\$ 95.00	05/10/16
05/18/16	Wed	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Huntingdon	\$ 85.00	05/11/16

- ❖ Employees insured through Eastern Forestry Insurance Group can have the registration fee for GOL classes paid by WJ Cox Insurance. Please submit proof of insurance with your registration form.
- ❖ Northern Tier Hardwood Association Members can apply for a 50% reimbursement of registration costs after completing courses. Contact NTHA at 570-265-7753.

CONTINUING EDUCATION TRAINING :

One (1) year of CE credit is given for each four (4) hours of training completed. Refer to the Training Program Policy for complete details on training requirements at: www.sfiopa.org/requirements.

Course Date	Time	Course Name (Course Descriptions on Registration form)	Location	Cost ❖	Register By	
03/24/16	Thurs	8:30 a.m.	Vernal Pool Ecology & Management (4 hours)	Fayetteville	\$ 40.00	03/17/16
04/05/16	Tues	1:00 p.m.	Kane Area Logger Safety Meeting (4 hours)	Johnsonburg	\$ 20.00	03/29/16
04/13/16	Wed	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 2 (8 hours)	Laurelton	\$ 95.00	04/06/16
04/21/16	Thurs	8:00 a.m.	Erosion Control in Our Forests (8 hours)	Ulysses (PA Lumber Museum)	COST IS \$15/PERSON. REGISTER WITH POTTER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT BY April 11 – (814) 274-8411 ext. 4 ADDITIONAL \$20 FOR PA SFI CE CREDITS.	
04/22/16	Fri	8:00 a.m.	Business Management for Timber Harvesters (8 hours)	Spring Grove	\$ 40.00	04/15/16
04/23/16	Sat	8:00 a.m.	Hydraulic Systems Safety & Maintenance (8 hours)	Montgomery	\$ 75.00	04/16/16
04/28/16	Thurs	8:00 a.m.	Outdoor Survival Skills for Timber Harvesters (4 hours)	Clarion	\$ 50.00	04/21/16
04/29/16	Fri	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 2 (8 hours)	Laughlintown	\$ 95.00	04/22/16
05/04/16	Wed	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 2 (8 hours)	Penfield	\$ 95.00	04/27/16
05/07/16	Sat	8:00 a.m.	Hydraulics System Safety & Maintenance (8 hours)	Montgomery	\$ 75.00	04/30/16
05/11/16	Wed	8:00 a.m.	PA Wildlife (4 hours)	Reading	\$ 50.00	05/04/16
05/12/16	Thurs	8:00 a.m.	The Relationship Between Lumber, Tree, and Log Grades (8 hours)	Mt. Pleasant Mills	\$ 40.00	05/05/16
05/17/16	Tues	8:00 a.m.	Sustainable Forestry (8 hours)	Laporte	\$ 40.00	05/10/16
05/18/16	Wed	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 2 (8 hours)	Huntingdon	\$ 95.00	05/11/16

- ❖ Employees insured through Eastern Forestry Insurance Group can have the registration fee for GOL classes paid by WJ Cox Insurance. Please submit proof of insurance with your registration form.
- ❖ Northern Tier Hardwood Association Members can apply for a 50% reimbursement of registration costs after completing courses. Contact NTHA at 570-265-7753.

OTHER CONTINUING EDUCATION TRAINING:

Additional training opportunities are available through numerous organizations across Pennsylvania and in adjoining states. Training courses taken from other sources may qualify for PA SFI continuing education credit, provided the subject of the course is relevant to the SFI program, and if some legitimate form of documentation is provided to the PA SIC office for proof of content and attendance. To submit Non-PA SFI training credits please fill out a copy of the Non-PA SFI Course Credit Form (available on our website under "Forms" section or by contacting the PA SIC office) and send it to the PA SIC office with all necessary paperwork and a check for \$20 made payable to the "PA SFI Implementation Committee" for administrative costs. Refer to the Training Program Policy for complete details on training requirements.

The PA SIC maintains a listing of all pre-approved Non-PA SFI CE training courses that we have been made aware of. It can be found on our website: [visit http://www.sfiopa.org](http://www.sfiopa.org)

Visit www.sfiopa.org for additional details and the most current training schedule. Programs may be added or cancelled at any time. For additional information, please contact the PA SFI® Implementation Committee at: (814) 355-1010, or Toll Free (888) 734-9366, pasfi@sfiopa.org

Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee

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Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee

Professional Timber Harvester Training program

2016 Spring Course Registration Form

SAVE TIME, REGISTER ONLINE! www.sfiopa.org/register

- Registration fees are **non-refundable and non-transferrable** after the course registration deadline if the course is held and you do not attend.
- Registration is on a first come, first served basis. Your space in a course will not be reserved until the registration fee is paid. Please do not delay in making payment or your space could be given to another participant.
- Courses may be cancelled if a minimum number of students are not registered by the registration deadline. Please register on time.
- For a full description of the Training Program Policies, please visit www.sfiopa.org/requirements or contact the PA SIC® office.

ATTENDEE	COURSE DATE	COURSE NAME	COURSE LOCATION	COST
(Please Print Clearly / One Course Participant Per Form)				
Name: (Full First, Middle Initial, Last)				
Home Mailing Address:				
Home or Cell Phone: () - 				
Email:				
Occupation (circle one): • Forester • Logger-owner • Logger-employee • Landowner • Office personnel • Truck driver • Other _____		Make checks payable to: "Pennsylvania SIC" Mail to: PA SFI Implementation Committee 211 Barrington Lane Bellefonte, PA 16823		Total Amount Enclosed:

2016 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

CORE TRAINING:

Required to receive a PA SFI® Professional Timber Harvester Training Card. All 3 requirements must be completed within 2 years.

- **Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)** - Part one focuses on recognizing and negating hazards that timber harvesting operations encounter daily. It includes modules covering chainsaw safety, equipment safety, truck safety and an overview of OSHA regulations applicable to logging. Part two focuses on the Erosion & Sediment Pollution Control Plan required by Chapter 102, understanding Pennsylvania's Clean Streams Laws, permits a logger may need when working near streams and wetlands, Best Management Practices (BMPs), and the importance of planning, job layout, and harvesting aesthetics. DOES NOT COUNT FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT.
- **Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)** - Focuses on introducing the participant to the "open face" felling technique and the development of skills to safely use it. Topics covered include personal protective equipment, chainsaw safety features, chainsaw reactive forces, bore cutting, pre-planning the fell, and understanding hinge wood strength. Participants need safety equipment (hard hat, chaps, eye protection, ear protection, and sturdy boots), water, lunch, and should be prepared to spend the day outside (rain or shine). Participants are not required to provide their own chainsaw. If you have not taken Game of Logging – Level 1 within the last five (5) years, you can attend GOL-1 for continuing education credit.
- **First Aid & CPR (4 hours)** - The focus of this program is on First Aid and Adult CPR training that meets OSHA Logging requirements and American Red Cross (or equivalent) certification. Training can also be taken locally through your Fire Department, EMS, Hospital, etc. Online courses are not accepted. DOES NOT COUNT FOR CE CREDIT.

CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE):

One (1) year of CE credit is given for each four (4) hours of CE training completed. CE credits can only extend your card date a maximum of three (3) years from the current calendar year. CE credit will not be awarded for taking the same class more than once in a five (5) year period.

- **Business Management for Timber Harvesters (8 hours)** - Successful business management is fundamental to a successful logging operation. Participants are introduced to the preparation of business plans, documents used for financial analysis, key people, sources of assistance, employee management, and other components of running a successful business. This is a great class for new loggers starting their own business or established loggers looking for a refresher.
- **Erosion Control In Our Forests (8 hours)** - This workshop combines indoor and outdoor instruction time to discuss Pennsylvania's regulatory requirements (chapters 93, 102, & 105 of PA Code). It discusses planning before the harvest, stream crossings, best management practices, reading E&S plans, and other considerations during and after the timber harvest. Participants must register for this training through the Potter County Conservation District (814) 274-8411 ext. 4
- **Game of Logging (8 hours, each Level)** - These courses cover chainsaw safety and safe/efficient harvesting techniques. They MUST be taken in order. **Level 1** (see description under Core Training section). **Level 2** focuses on saw maintenance, chain sharpening techniques, releasing spring poles safely, and directional tree felling. **Level 3** focuses on handling difficult trees. Topics covered include limbing, wedging techniques and hinge placement. Refer to Level 1 description under Core Training for additional details.
- **Hydraulic Systems Safety & Maintenance (8 hours)** - This hands-on course will introduce participants to the theory of hydraulic operation, nomenclature and function of associated components, safety practices, general maintenance, and diagnostic troubleshooting of hydraulic systems.
- **Kane Area Logger Safety Meeting (4 hours)** – Steve Bick, a consulting forester and principal in Northeast Forests, LLC, will be presenting "*Logging Costs and Financial Measurements*" to help loggers understand costs and improve the management of their businesses. The meeting, which includes a free dinner, will include a number of updates as well as a presentation on emerald ash borer (EAB) and the safety concerns it poses to loggers. Participants must attend both the afternoon training and the evening meeting to receive PA SFI CE credits.
- **Outdoor Survival Skills for Timber Harvesters (4 hours)** – This course covers various aspects of dealing with outdoor survival situations. A major emphasis is placed on being prepared for unexpected emergencies and preventing hypothermia. Items to have with you, compass and map skills, and shelter/fire building techniques are among the many aspects discussed in detail. Hands on experience is provided to all participants in compass/map and fire building exercises.
- **Sustainable Forestry (8 hours)** - How do you know that a timber harvest is "sustainable?" What are the consequences of high-grading and diameter limit cuts? This course covers the elements of sustainable harvesting practices and how to assess a stand. It focuses on the forest that remains as a result of the harvest.
- **The Relationship Between Lumber, Tree, and Log Grades (8 hours)** - This course will introduce basic knowledge about hardwood lumber grades, tree grades, and log grades. It will explain how the different grades are established and will provide an understanding of how the tree, lumber, and log grades affect each other.
- **Vernal Pool Ecology & Management (4 hours)** – This course will introduce participants to vernal pools, how to recognize them, and their importance. It will also cover wetland regulations and how they relate to vernal pools, and BMPs for operating around vernal pools. Participants will also observe vernal pools in the field.

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Implementation Committee

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