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SFI<sup>SM</sup> of Pennsylvania  
315 South Allen Street, #418  
State College, PA 16801  
814-867-9299 | 888-734-9366

[www.sfiopa.org](http://www.sfiopa.org)

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# The Sustainable Forestry Initiative<sup>®</sup> of Pennsylvania

## Greens Don't See Forest for the Trees

by  
**Patrick Moore**

*March 26, 2002*

It has become a principle of the environmental movement to insist that wood and paper products be certified as originating from sustainably managed forests. Movement members even created their own organization, the Forest Stewardship Council, to make the rules and hand out the certificates.

And Lord help those who don't fall in line, as big-box retailers and builders discovered when Greenpeace and the Rainforest Action Network became their judge and jury-hanging corporate reputations from the rafters with the TV cameras rolling.

Many corporations felt compelled to accept restrictive buying policies for wood and paper products to demonstrate loyalty to the cause. This appears politically correct on the surface. Yet, as with so many environmental issues, it's not that simple, and the result may damage the environment rather than improve it.

The environmental movement's campaign to force industry into accepting it as the only judge of sustainable forestry is pushing consumers away from renewable forest products and toward nonrenewable, energy-intensive materials such as steel, concrete and plastic.

Anti-forestry groups such as the Sierra Club and Greenpeace make endless and unreasonable demands restricting forestry practices. This is mainly why the Forest Stewardship Council has certified less than 2% of the wood and paper produced in North America.

Meanwhile, the same environmental groups refuse to recognize other legitimate certification programs, such as the Canadian Standards Assn. or the U.S. Sustainable Forestry Initiative, even though both include independent audits of sustainable forestry. And movement members won't acknowledge that some regions—such as California—already comply with government regulations that meet or exceed guidelines imposed by the Forest Stewardship Council. Wood is the most renewable and sustainable of the major building materials. On all measures comparing the environmental effects of common building materials, wood has the least impact on total energy use, greenhouse gases, air and water pollution, solid waste and ecological resource use.

So why isn't the environmental movement demanding that the steel and concrete industries submit to an independent audit for "sustainability"? Where's the green steel, concrete and plastic? These materials are all nonrenewable, require vast amounts of energy to manufacture and recycle and are major contributors to greenhouse gas emissions. Why shouldn't steel and concrete manufacturers be required to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions or face boycotts, demonstrations, bans and restrictions? Why does the environmental movement stand silent in the face of aggressive promotional campaigns by steel and concrete interests that leverage mythical environmental claims against wood for their own commercial benefit? Because emotive images of forests sell memberships.

The environmental movement has unfortunately led the public into believing that when people use wood, they cause the loss of forests. This widespread guilt is misplaced. North America's forests are not disappearing. In fact, there is about the same amount of forest cover today as there was 100 years ago, even though we consume more wood per capita than any other region in the world. Isn't this proof positive that forests are renewable and sustainable? When we buy wood, we are sending a signal to plant more trees to satisfy demand. If there were no demand for wood, landowners would clear away the forest and grow something else instead.

We have powerful tools at our disposal to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and the threat of climate change. Grow more trees, and then use more wood as a substitute for materials like steel and concrete that are responsible for excessive emissions in the first place.

If the environmental movement would recognize this one fact, it would turn their anti-forestry policy on its head and redirect membership dollars to where they are most needed—promoting sound environmental choices.

Patrick Moore is a co-founder of Greenpeace. He is now president of Greenspirit, an environmental consultant to government and industry.

# Winter 2002

(Issue #9)

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 SFI of PA program works to ensure the progress of the national initiative, here in Pennsylvania.

## State Implementation Committee (SIC) Members

- Kevin Stout, Chairman  
Georgia-Pacific Corp.\*
- Matt Andrews, Deer Park Lumber
- John Bouch, Pro. Timber Harvesting Inc.
- Bill Bow, Appleton Papers, Inc.
- Charlie Brown,  
Glatfelter Pulp Wood Co.\*
- Tom Buzby, Weaber, Inc.\*
- Blair Carbaugh, Private Landowner
- Peter Coutu, International PaperCo.\*
- Dan Evans, Willamette Industries, Inc.\*
- Jim Finley, Penn State University
- James Grace, Bureau of Forestry
- Bob Hobbes, Hobbes Forestry
- Jeff Kochel, Forest Investment Associates\*
- Dave & Mark Krumenacker,  
Krumenacker Lumber Co.
- Rich LaBrozzi, RAM Forest Products\*
- Paul Lyskava, PA HDC
- Ken Manno, SFI of PA
- Scott Morgan, Georgia-Pacific Corp.\*
- Ray Noll, SFI of PA
- Gene Odatto, Bureau of Forestry
- Bob Radspinner, Plum Creek Timber Company\*
- Ken Roberts, Westvaco\*
- William Robie, HLMA
- Dave Sienko, Sienko Forest Products
- Sue Swanson, AHUG
- Susan Stout, USDA Forest Service
- Todd Waldron, Craftmaster Manufacturing, Inc.
- Mark Webb, Webb Forestry Consulting
- Mary Wirth, Penn State University
- Jay Farrell, AF&PA Liason

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

## Forest Regeneration (cont.)

The Sustainable Forestry courses give participants many things to consider. However, in the remainder of this article, we will focus on things that influence forest regeneration. Undoubtedly, you have already observed many of the things we will discuss. Importantly, we hope that we can provide some insights into factors that affect regeneration and lead you to consider your role in sustaining forests by providing for successful regeneration every time you harvest timber.

Many times, when we harvest timber, we do not guarantee that there is enough advanced regeneration to ensure a fully-stocked stand in the future. In 1993, McWilliams, Stout, Bowersox, and McCormick, analyzed data from the then recently completed statewide timber inventory (Alerich, C.L. 1993). The US Forest Service has recently completed its second field season for its new annualized inventory, and we should soon have some new data to consider. Nonetheless, the 1993 data remains valid and provides crucial insights.

Mc Williams et al. examined data from stands with overstory stocking (i.e., light conditions) between 40 and 75 percent. Stands within that range should have abundant (i.e., established) regeneration. However, a mere six percent of the sites were sufficiently stocked with commercial seedlings (Table 1), and only four percent were stocked with enough desirable seedlings to replace canopy trees. Thus stands sometimes looked like they have enough total seedlings to ensure regeneration, but it is important to look at the type of seedling to see if they are of desirable species. Even when all woody stems were considered only one of the ten sample locations satisfied criteria that indicates regeneration would occur following an overstory removal. Even under favorable conditions — that is healthy vigorous seedlings, desired soil and site characteristics, favorable overstory and understory plant competition, an absence of insects and disease stresses, ideal weather conditions, lower deer browsing—only one of the five sample locations had sufficient desirable seedlings. Moreover, only about one of four had sufficient commercial seedlings and four

Table 1. Desirable and Commercial Species

Desirable	Black cherry, Oaks, Maple, Hemlock, White pine
Other Desirable	Ash, Basswood, Cucumber, Hickory, Walnut, and Tulip poplar
Other Commercial	Aspen, Beech, Birch, Black locust, Elm, Black gum
Noncommercial	Ailanthus, Dogwood, Hawthorne, Ironwood, Muscledwood, Pin cherry, Sassafras. Scrub oak, Serviceberry, Striped maple

*This stand reflects the impacts of increased light on the forest floor following harvesting and residual tree mortality. Not only has the seed source been greatly reduced, now ferns dominate the understory and they will inhibit regeneration.*





***It is easy to overlook deer impacts. Establishing forest regeneration in this stand will take careful planning.***

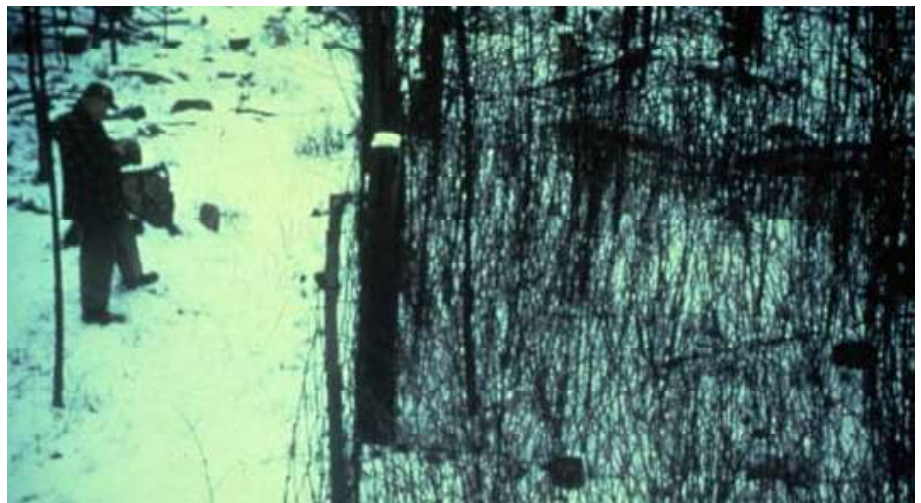
of ten had adequate woody plant stocking. Clearly not a desirable condition, especially considering that these sample locations had overstory light conditions that should have promoted adequate regeneration.

Issues affecting forest regeneration are many. In this short article, we won't explore the issues in much depth, but we will introduce them. We will provide more specific/detailed information and approaches for resolving some of the issues in future articles in this series.

One issue of critical concern when evaluating regeneration potential is competing vegetation. Certain types of vegetation, sometimes called interfering plants, compete with desirable plants for site resources. Chief among these resources is light. As a general rule, shade from low vegetation creates more interference with desirable species than shade from plants in the forest canopy.

Among the interfering species of concern in Pennsylvania and the Northeast are ferns that spread by rhizomes (i.e., underground roots). These types include, hayscented, New York and bracken ferns, which all have individual fronds or stems as opposed to ferns that grow in clumps (e.g., wood, Christmas, sword, interrupted). Ferns with rhizomes spread rapidly and can quickly dominate a site, intercepting sunlight and suppressing tree seedling growth. Ferns are becoming increasingly common in our forests, and research suggests that preferential deer browsing is a primary cause of increasing fern abundance.

A second issue that is affecting advanced regeneration is that some noncommercial species and less desirable hardwoods are in the forest. Depending on where you work, you may be seeing increased occurrence of striped maple, beech brush, ironwood, blue beech, mountain laurel, blueberries, spicebush, and sweet fern. The role of these species in suppressing regeneration is easy to overlook, because these species provide green cover. As with ferns, deer do not readily feed on many of these species. As a result, we see these plants increasing in the understory of many stands. Deer feeding, by the way, is leading to an increase in other species as well: for instance, black birch and black cherry. The interaction between desirable tree species, black cherry and black birch, is interesting and we will discuss it in future articles.



***A deer enclosure clearly depicts the impact of deer on forest regeneration.***

Can we regenerate Pennsylvania's hardwood forests with desirable species? It depends on how effective we are at practicing silviculture by evaluating pre-harvest conditions and planning to establish adequate regeneration *before* harvesting. After harvesting, especially if we create conditions that encourage interfering plants or reduce the seed sources for desired species, it becomes more difficult to ensure regeneration. In all harvesting operations in which sustaining forests is an objective, it is essential to first evaluate overstory and understory conditions. You can learn more about this process by taking the Sustainable Forestry II course when it is offered in your area and by using what you learn to convey your concerns to the landowners you work with.

In the long run, the other important thing you can do to ensure continuation of our hardwood resources is to support the reduction of white-tailed deer. This is especially true in large wooded areas where access to alternative food sources is limited. The role of deer is insidious; in many areas of the state, deer have exceeded the cultural carrying capacity of the forest for decades. Many Pennsylvanians have never seen a fully-stocked healthy forest understory and don't understand the large number of seedlings necessary to ensure the development of the next forest. ■

#### Bibliography

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Mc Williams, W.H., S.L. Stout, T.W. Bowersox, L.H. McCormick. 1993. Can We regenerate Pennsylvania's hardwood forests? In the proceedings of the Penn State Forest Resources Issues Conference, *Penn's Woods—Change and Challenge*. (eds. Finley, J.C., S.B. Jones). p 23-36.

## In Brief

### PA Lumber History & Tourism

Pennsylvania has designated a 15 county area, primarily in the north central and northwest parts of the state, as the Lumber Heritage Region—the state's 11th heritage park and the second largest heritage area in the United States. Commenting on the natural wealth of the region Lt. Governor Mark Schweiker said, "Pennsylvania's north central and northwest regions consist of the state's most densely forested counties, areas known for supplying the timber that helped our Commonwealth and the nation grow. Among the amazing stands of hardwoods, one is reminded of a time when transient lumber camps followed the path of timber, rivers were jammed with floating logs, and Pennsylvania was the lumber capital of the world." Schweiker continued, "We now are blessed with a second generation of forest—one of the finest hardwood forests in the world—that not only produces top quality timber but outstanding recreational opportunities."

The newly designated region encompasses the Allegheny National Forest, 1.4 million acres of state forest land, and 34 state parks. It also takes in more than 450,000 acres of state game lands; nine universities, colleges, and campus extensions; and eight county visitor centers. The state intends to attract visitors to the Lumber Heritage Region. Marketing, interpretive education, historical preservation, and economic development in the region will be centered around the evolution of timbering, from the early days of rafting and railroad logging to the recovery of the forests and modern forest management. The designation of the Lumber Heritage Region resulted from three years of planning by the North Central Regional Planning and Development Commission, in partnership with the region's tourism promotion agencies, county planning departments, and historic preservation organizations, local government officials, the Allegheny Hardwoods Utilization Group, the Hardwoods Development Council, the Hardwood Lumber Manufacturer's Association and residents of the region.

### SFI of PA Logging Course Honored Nationally

The SFI of PA's Business Management course materials were submitted to the National Association of County Agriculture Agents (NACAA) and was honored as a "Regional Finalist" at the Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference in Albuquerque New Mexico.



Steve Brown bestows the Regional Outstanding Logger Award to John Bouch.

### John Bouch Honored as FRA's 2001 Appalachian Region Outstanding Logger

SFI State Implementation Committee (SIC) member John Bouch was honored by the Forest Resources Association's Appalachian Technical Division (ATD) as the region's 2001 Outstanding Logger. John was the first SFI of PA "Master Logger" and serves on both the Training Committee and SIC. He is an enthusiastic promoter of logger training and education programs. At the award ceremony Ben Crago of Northeast Stihl, presented John with a Stihl MS460 chainsaw and a \$250 check. Stihl Incorporated has been a long-time supporter of FRA's regional and national Outstanding Logger Awards.

The purpose of the FRA Outstanding Logger Award program is to raise the visibility of professional logging contractors and to encourage other loggers to adopt the performance of the award winner. The regional award winner becomes a nominee for FRA's National Outstanding Logger recognition.

### PA Bureau of Forestry and the Allowable Cut

There is concern in the forest products industry that the Bureau of Forestry is not meeting allowable cut limits. Speculation on why was mentioned aloud at the September 19th Sustainable Forestry Conference at Penn State. Dr. Jim Grace, State Forester, pointed out the primary reason allowable cut limits are not being met is because the over abundance of deer is making it extremely difficult to adequately regenerate harvested stands. Dr. Grace also mentioned the bureau incurred a great deal of expense in erecting fencing around harvested sites—which seems to be achieving desired results. However the cost and labor involved with erecting and maintaining these fences, makes it difficult to meet the allowable cut level.

### Bob Hobbes Receives SAF Field Forester Award

SIC member and consulting forester Bob Hobbes Jr. was honored by the Society of American Foresters (SAF) with the 2001 Presidential Field Forester Award. Bob was one of eleven foresters recognized nationally for "foresters who have displayed uncommon talent and innovative methods to achieve a record of excellence in the application of forest management." Bob's business, Hobbes Forestry Services, performs timberland management planning, wildlife habitat management planning, timber sales preparation and marketing for forest landowners in the north-eastern area of the state. Bob is also an instructor for a number of our training programs.



### Sue Swanson Honored for Forestry Activism

SIC member Sue Swanson was honored by the Forest Resources Association's Appalachian Technical Division (ATD) as its 2001 Forestry Activist Award Winner. The award recognized her accomplishments in support of Northwest Pennsylvania's forest industry and for promoting the message of balanced, multiple-use forestry to the general public.

Sue is the Executive Director of the Allegheny Hardwood Utilization Group (AHUG) in Kane. Her approach to forestry activism at AHUG has been to work at the grassroots level in northwest PA. A prime example of this was her work in organizing and coordinating a statewide coalition of resource user groups to respond to the EPA's recent TMDL regulation proposal. Sue has worked tirelessly on Allegheny National Forest management issues, helping to motivate and educate legislators and other PA residents on the importance of active management on the Allegheny National Forest.

Sue's educational efforts with AHUG include presenting forestry education programs to approximately 1,200 students annually, sponsoring a forest stewardship essay contest for eighth-graders, and initiating a pilot program to develop a wood products curriculum at high schools and vo-tech schools to train entry-level employees for the wood products industry. (FRA thanks Willamette Industries, the sponsor for FRA's 2001 ATD Forestry Activist Award.) ■

# Brode Lumber Company

Sawmills comfortably navigating the current economic conditions all have several things in common; diverse markets, low debt, long standing buyers, six months of inventory standing in the woods, and a reputation for good work and caring about the resource in their region. These traits hold true for the Brode Lumber Company near Saxton, PA, in Huntingdon County. Brode Lumber is run by the three Brode brothers, Arnold, Bob, and Randy. Each brother is responsible for a specific area of the mill's operation, with Arnold in charge of the sawmill and green lumber sales, Bob, the trucking, and Randy takes care of procurement, kiln dried lumber, and the molder and mill works. Arnold's wife, does the accounting for the company. The Brodes are third generation sawmillers, producing 2 1/2 million board feet of rough and kiln dried lumber, as well as log home kits for 4 X 6 cottages, paneling, flooring, log siding, pulp chips and bark mulch. Having a solid reputation in the Raystown Lake area helps to ensure they rarely travel more than 45 miles to procure timber.

Brode Lumber Company was established in 1960 by Robert Brode Sr., whose original sawmill was destroyed by a lightening fire in October, 1983. With no insurance, it was total loss. Brode Sr. built a new mill at the present site in 1984 with his sons' future in mind. Since their father's tragic death in 1987 the brothers have been adding improvements to the mill; two 7 thousand foot kilns and a molding operation. Brode Lumber created their own market for white pine and hemlock, using it for log home siding and for the log home kits that they sell. Though the pine cabins only make up about 5% of the total income for the sawmill, utilization of the softwood material gives the Brodes the flexibility to bid on tracks of timber that have a pine content. Producing a "value added" item like the cottage kits doesn't generate a big profit, but it does utilize of the pine and keeps the money flowing. Brode Lumber produces the shell for the cabins and the customers and builders add on to it with their own designs. The Brodes also sell green palette lumber and railroad ties. They blow all their sawdust into a tractor trailer which is sold to local farmers.

Brode Lumber contracts different loggers to cut the tim-



**Arnold, Randy and Bob Brode in the yard of Brode Lumber Company near Saxton, PA.**

ber they buy. Most of these crews haven't been through SFI training, though it is encouraged by the Brodes. Randy monitors the job sites to make sure the harvesting is being done in a sustainable manner according to his management specifications. Brode Lumber purchases about six months worth of stumpage (approx. million board feet) as inventory in the woods. Their reputation and longevity in the business brings them enough inquiries and repeat customers that they do not have to advertise. They are now cutting stands their father cut 15 to 20 years prior. During that interim, one of the greatest factors hindering oak sustainability has been the gypsy moth. On discussing SFI practices with landowners Randy says, "Some people aren't willing to listen—they want the biggest dollar they can get. You can sense the ones who are concerned about the future. They are more than happy to listen to you and go along with your (management) plan. But I would say 75% of the landowners we deal with are not concerned with management. I've dealt with older men who say 'I am going to get the most I can get.' (for their timber). They are getting ready to retire, they won't be around for the next cycle so they are grabbing all they can right now. It doesn't seem they are worried about the generation coming behind them. Where that attitude is hurting us is we are still young. We are trying to keep a continuous cycle of management going and they are not worried about it."

When asked what kind of treatment those landowners are asking for Randy said, "The most. Everything 12 inches and up, which pretty much wipes out a stand for another 50 to 60 years."

The Brodes write up timber management plans for 15

to 20 year cycles. Presently they are working the 2nd cycle of some plans established in the 1980s. Recently, harvesting inquiries have been flowing in more than normal. A third to half of the landowners Brode Lumber purchases stumpage from are loyal, repeat customers, entrusting their timber management to the Brodes without anyone else bidding on their tracts. As Randy says, "We never drop the price just because we are the only ones bidding on the timber. We are always fair with them. We would pay the same on a consulting forester's tract as we would with our repeat customers."

Arnold elaborates on the situation, "The public needs more education on how this business operates. They are confused by the different amounts of money being offered them and what the different sawmills tell them." Arnold told of an instance where the Brodes were managing a private landowner's property for sustainability and after the Brode's harvest, the landowner let another logger onto his property to cut what they had left behind. Arnold says, "I think the lumber industry increasingly reflects a majority of the population in the way they think and live—and they live for today, not the future."

The current economic down turn hasn't really affected Brode Lumber too much with long-standing buyers in a variety of markets, though prices for palette lumber are very depressed with some mills being on quota. Arnold says, "We try not to put all our eggs into one basket. We are selling to some of the same companies Dad sold to, so we are loyal to those guys. We cut a decent product—they know that and purchase it. The lumber industry is unpredictable, but we are going to keep producing and keep selling." ■

## SFI of PA SIC Member

# Dave Sienko of Sienko Forest Products

Dave Sienko provides a voice of on-the-ground practicality at the bimonthly SFI of PA State Implementation Committee (SIC) meetings. As a former wood supplier for Procter and Gamble in Mehoopany, PA, Dave has been familiar with sustainable forestry practices for nearly a decade. He was on the original steering committee for SFI training in Pennsylvania during the mid-90s. Dave attended his first SIC meeting in the fall of 1999 and found it “an eye opening experience.” He was fascinated by the political maneuvering of different factions all trying to achieve the same goal. Dave relates, “I know what should be done and has to be done, but there are opinions and politics which conflict with what I know works out in the woods. Sometimes it is tough to enact theory into practice. The good intention of theory can conflict with common sense. I’ve said (to some SIC members) ‘if you think that works come on out and try it.’ I speak my mind, I am not afraid to tell them what I think. Sometimes they agree, sometimes they don’t. SIC meetings can be upsetting, but I always like going.” Dave discovered that the decision-making process of the SIC always leads to action and often quickly. He finds it a unique and very democratic governing body in that all members are equal, without rank and all are equally heard. The fact that the SIC frequently reaches agreement without having to vote on an issue also surprises him.

Looking at future issues the SIC will be confronting, Dave sees SFI certification as a major hurdle that needs to be implemented. He says, “We are going to have to develop guidelines for documentation so the mills can sell it to their markets as wood that has been harvested in a sustainable manner. Hopefully the industry will self-enforce those guidelines.”

Another issue Dave would rather not see become a reality is the licensing of both loggers and foresters, but he feels it will probably happen anyway. The best scenario is that it would not be state mandated but have industry do it themselves. Dave says, “Foresters are still high-grading. From what I see less than 50% of the harvests are



SIC member Dave Sienko with his grappler logging truck in Hallstead, PA.

sustainable. The mills and loggers have to change their mind-set or else there will not be a quality resource left to harvest in twenty years. The change must come from the sawmills (foresters) and loggers because (many) landowners are money driven.”

Discussing the changing landowner base of rural Pennsylvania Dave observes, “Fifteen, twenty years ago the landowners around here (Endless Mountains) were mainly farmers, who had grown up on the farm. It is not that way any more. The landowners are frequently absentee, they are from the city, they are doctors, lawyers—they are educated people. Heck, I’ve had jobs where the wife is more interested in the timber harvesting than the husband because he is too busy with his work. They ask real good questions about what I am doing.” Dave is very comfortable with the role of ‘logger as educator’. He says, “Landowners often call me wanting another price for comparison and a second opinion. We have got to educate them. I ask them, ‘How is it going to be cut?’ Usually down to a 12 inch stump. I say, ‘Do you have time to take a walk in your woods?’ I show them what would be left if everything 12 inches and up were taken. Nine out of ten times you can convince them not to sell the timber that way, because they won’t have anything left of value. I give them the SFI and FRA handouts and I tell them, ‘if this was mine this is what I would be doing with it.’ The landowner asks how much they are going to get? Well it is going to be less because we are leaving trees—but those trees will be more valuable in ten years. Most of the time you can get them to go along with your management plan—sometimes you can’t.” Dave worries about finding quality stumpage

in order to obtain sawlogs and improve the woodlot where it hasn’t been already high-graded. Those parcels of land are becoming harder to find.

In his own business Dave is constantly looking for the right mills and markets to take his low-grade logs. He sorts his sawlogs according to species and has mills come and bid on them at the job landing. The mills have the option of bidding on the logs they want. Of the bidding process Dave says, “It is competitive. I’ve had bids that are \$30,000 apart on the same 40,000 feet of logs.”

On finding new markets for wood Dave says, “You’ve got to try new things. You can’t sit back and do the same thing all the time. It would be great just to cut sawlogs all the time. But you can’t go into a woodlot and just cut out the sawlogs or else there isn’t anything else left to cut. So I am trying the firewood business as well.” Dave had so many orders for cords of firewood he had to pull his ad from the local newspaper. Commenting on the high price of stumpage Dave says, “I can’t afford to bid on good timber. If a sawmill wants it, there is no way I can compete against them. They have the resources to pay for it. They will pay more for it standing on the stump than what I’ll get as a delivered price to the mill.”

The statewide problem of not having enough outlets for low-grade material has affected Dave’s timber purchasing decisions. He says, “You could buy a wood lot and do what had to be done (for sustainable management) because you could get rid of the junk. Now I

## Most of the practices I put forth on the ground I've learned from SFI courses.

—Dave Sienko

cannot buy a woodlot that is solid pulp wood. I have to have a certain percentage of sawlogs in order to make ends meet. That is why I started the firewood business, to take care of the low-grade wood in a time of high heating oil prices. I would like to see wood fired generators for electricity come in to use in Pennsylvania in order to utilize the low-grade material. We have a large, cheap fuel supply and it is renewable.

Dave and his family live on property that adjoins his father's dairy farm, where he grew up. His father logged part-time, ran the dairy farm, and drove the school bus. Dave and his three brothers spent most of their free time in the woods, logging for pulp wood. When Procter and Gamble opened their mill in Mehoopany in 1966 the Sienkos were one of the first to sign a supplier contract. A year later his father sold the cows and went into logging full time with his sons. The Sienkos had one of the first John Deere skidders in the area which Dave was driving at age 13, when he spent his summers working in the woods with his father and older brothers. Dave went to Penn Tech in forestry and graduated in 1978. He and one of his brothers bought out his father's business, purchasing all of his equipment—though they maintained the Sienko "quality supplier" contract with Procter and Gamble for the next ten years. When his brother was hurt in a logging accident he decided to leave the business, making Dave the last of the Sienkos to still log. June Sienko, Dave's wife, does all the accounting for the business and is a national administrator for the Game of Logging. Dave hired one employee, Keith Mock, who runs his Bell-feller-buncher. Dave prefers a swing-boom-grapple on his skidder over using a cable or grapple skidding because it doesn't tear up the ground as much. He is an avid machinery trader and recently traded in a used Forwarder for a new one which he prefers over a skidder. Sienko Forest Products has a reputation for maintaining their equipment for the best performance.

Dave comments on the importance of continuing education for working in the woods, "I've been out of college (Penn Tech) for so long a lot of that information is obsolete. Most of the practices I put forth on the ground I've learned from SFI courses. In particular the Erosion and Sedimentation course (now Advanced Environmental Logging) and the Wildlife course. It would be nice to

have a course on soils, so you could know more about reading the trees by what they are growing in—but it is tough because soils vary all over the state. Loggers find a comfortable way of working and stay like that—when practices need to be frequently updated. Heck, I don't even work the same way I did five years ago." Dave would like to see a lot more logger training going on in the state. He says, "SFI needs to do a better job of communicating with all the sawmills in the state, because increasingly those mills have their own logging crews, contracted and subcontracted, to keep the mills supplied in wood. Those crews are frequently using practices that do not agree with SFI principles. I am not saying who is at fault because almost everybody bends the rules to get the job done, a business has to make money. Every contracted and subcontracted logging crew to a mill should be SFI trained."

Dave feels the Business Management course is not only one of the best courses the SFI of PA offers, it is essential to the survival of any small logging business during the current economic slump. Dave says, "The Business Management course is simple enough that anyone in the business should be able to understand it and put it to use. With the price of timber, equipment, and operating, compared to what you get for the logs—if you don't know what is going on, you aren't going to be around very long. For me, there is nothing else I would rather be doing. I love my work." ■

## PSU Unveils AgMap

Pennsylvania is a national leader in agricultural production. Everything from apples to hardwood are marketed throughout the world, yet many Pennsylvanians don't even realize what is being grown and harvested within a few miles of their homes. AgMap, PA's agricultural network, helps consumers, farmers, and businesses find local producers of various agricultural commodities. Besides being able to contact growers and producers directly, thereby skipping the middleman, AgMap provides lists of regional services available. For market analyses, businesses can use AgMap to determine locations of competitors and to determine voids in services where new businesses might be successful. To have your product listed contact Dr. Rick Day, Land Analysis Lab, The Pennsylvania State University, (814) 863-7043, or on the web, <http://agmap.cas.psu.edu>. ■



## Posting Signs At Your Logging Job

Looking for an effective, affordable way to boost the local reputation of timber harvesting, while making a strong statement about your own professionalism? Posting professional looking signs on or near your active logging job lets people in the community, or people just passing through, know that you are logging sustainably and taking responsibility for your work.

The Forest Resources Association has developed and launched a Timber Harvesting Signs program, making attractive, customized, reusable signs with positive messages available to logging contractors, foresters, and landowners at affordable prices.

The weatherproof, stiff plastic signs are 18 inches by 24 inches (vertical), with dark green lettering on a white background. The program offers a choice of six messages, some suitable for an access road turnout, others for posting right at the landing. Customization—your name, and business phone—is included in the price. A generic "caution" decal is also available for in-woods signs.

One logger said, "I think the job we're doing in the woods has come a long way in the past few years, and we should be proud of it. I see putting up these signs as good advertising for me and my profession."

Information on FRA's Timber Harvesting Signs program, including a downloadable order form, is posted at [www.forestresources.org/th.s.htm](http://www.forestresources.org/th.s.htm). It is also available from FRA at \$2.00 for FRA members, \$4.00 for others. Please order the booklet from FRA, 600 Jefferson Plaza, Suite 350, Rockville, Maryland 20852, enclosing full payment with order, or phone (301) 838-9385 to order by credit card. (Refer to stock number 01-A-17) ■



## Partners Program Spotlight:

# John Baka of Brookville Wood Products, Inc.

Featured prominently in Brookville Wood Products' handout literature are two cross sections of a log, each 40 years old. Both are from the same environment, though the larger cross section is from a managed forest and the smaller one is not. Brookville Wood Products' concern for the forest resources goes beyond the words in their literature to the actual on-the-ground practices as maintained by their team of three foresters. One hundred percent of Brookville's subcontracted logging crews have been SFI trained, a fact that John Baka, Timber Resource Manager for the company, is proud of. As an added incentive, Brookville Wood Products will reimburse the registration costs for any of their subcontracted loggers who attend SFI courses.

Started 35 years ago by Joseph and Monica Mitchell, Brookville Wood Products (BWP) has slowly expanded over the years to its present annual production of 16 million board feet and 200 employees. Six days a week, they operate a state-of-the-art, computerized sawmill, blocking mill, and dimension mill, adding more shifts depending on customer demand. The dry kilns are operated seven days a week. John Baka is responsible for managing 6,000 acres (open to public use), and supervising three foresters and fifteen logging crews. They usually harvest within a hundred mile radius of the mill located in Jefferson County, an area aptly termed "the hardwood capital of the world".

Speaking on BWP's procurement policy John says, "Our approach to buying timber from a private landowner is simply, 'we would like to manage your timber so we can harvest it again in the future.' If they are open to that suggestion, one of our foresters will write up a management plan for them. We are not into clearcutting. It is too hard to get rid of the pulpwood, and we don't use the small stuff. We take a lot of our low-grade wood up to J&M pallet in Meadville. We bring in the red oak and hard maple that would normally be pulpwood. We take it down to eight inches and run it through our square mill and get small dimensions out of it. We also sell mulch, chips, and sawdust."

The decline of the American furniture business to China has affected BWP's market for dimensional hardwood and has them exploring new markets. These include, more lumber, mill posts for staircases, hardwood flooring, and baseball bats.



*John Baka, Timber Resource Manager for Brookville Wood Products, beside a map of their procurement area.*

BWP gives its loggers a sheet of Best Management Practices they need to follow on any of their jobs. John Baka and his assistant, Dean Knisley, are out in the field inspecting the different job sites to avoid potential problems or landowner complaints. Customer satisfaction is responsible for many of their timber leads. Other means of advertising John uses are ads in the local "area shopper" fliers, regional hunting magazines, and Farm Show publications. All of these sources help offset the increased competition for stumpage due to the closing of the Allegheny National Forest to logging. Though BWP purchased very few timber sales there, John sees the high price of stumpage slowly coming down.

John feels SFI of PA logger training is good but not enough, in a vocational sense. He elaborates, "It is becoming more difficult to get good logging crews. I don't think there is a professional, comprehensive training program out there. Our vo-tech school in Reynoldsville has a great lumbering and logging program and they produce some good students, but it isn't enough. We need courses offered in the rural areas where logging is a big part of everybody's life. That is where you are going to get your future loggers, not from Pittsburgh or State College—well maybe. I think SFI of PA and some of the other forestry programs in the state could start training in the high schools and vocational schools. Logging is a tough business and not too many young kids want to go into it. But if they had professional logger training and were taught how it works, how to mark timber and how to handle their money, then maybe more of them would want to go into it. Classrooms are good, but we need more 'hands-on' real life situations to learn from; plots of land designated as outdoor logging classrooms."

Discussing the high insurance rates for loggers John says, "The reason why we have so many single man logging crews is that the workman's comp insurance is so high. Working by themselves they don't need it, but if they hire an employee they have to pay it."

On the landing of every timber harvest BWP supervises they post a sign in full public view, with the company name, telephone number and job number. John said "If there is a problem, someone can call the main office with the job number and we know right where it is." This helps with the public perception of the industry which John would like to see change, "People look at logging as environmental destruction rather than the harvesting of a crop, which is actually what it is. We need to inform the public we are not doing harm when we log, we are helping the woods out. This is information we, as an industry, need to get out there to the public in conjunction with SFI of PA and AHUG, and all the other forestry organizations. But each individual sawmill has to promote best management practices in their area. As an industry we are responsible for self-promotion." John hands out BWP's illustrated, full color literature, as well as SFI of PA landowner packets to forest landowners. He says, "You need to pass information out to people—something for them to look at. We also give out names of customers we've dealt with that will provide landowners with references." John sees the passing on of forestry information as a "grass roots" means of checking anti-logging environmental groups. He feels these groups will not stop at national forests but will sue state lands and eventually target private landowners in order to stop logging.

John also deals with individual townships which are all



unique in their road bonding laws and their timbering regulations—a business handicap found throughout the state of Pennsylvania by the timber industry. John observes, “I don’t know how they would ever do it, but it would be nice if the townships were all uniform. If they could be more like the state where you call and accept a standard charge, that would be great. Some townships are real easy to deal with, others it takes three weeks to get a road bonded.”

Another wide spread problem John is concerned about, with recent closing of the International Paper (IP) mill in Erie, is getting rid of the pulpwood and low-grade logs that are a part of every timber sale. Taking this material out of a stand of timber is crucial to the sustainable management of the forest. But without viable markets close at hand the problem becomes imposing. John’s view is, “You have to take it out. But what to do with it? I don’t have a solution.” SFI of PA will be bringing this issue into focus in 2002 with the hope that all users of our forest resources will take an active part in planning for its future management. In the mean time Brookville Wood Products is one of the many SFI of PA partner companies that leads by example. ■

**Participation in the SFI of PA Program**

The SFI of PA program can continue to grow with your support. We encourage everyone to participate through a variety of ways. Call the office for details, (814) 867-9188.

**Partners Program**

This program is designed primarily for sawmills. It requires the company to formally commit to abide by and promote the use of sustainable forestry practices wherever and whenever possible. The annual financial fee paid by the company is based on the amount of sawmill lumber production during the prior year of operation and which came from logs procured in Pennsylvania.

**Supporters Program**

Supporters are those companies, primary or secondary processors, that want to support the efforts and activities of the SFI of PA. Supporters Program participants pledge to promote the use of sustainable forestry practices and commit to make a meaningful financial contribution each year to the SFI of PA.

**Loggers/Foresters Participation**

The SFI of PA has a program specifically for professional loggers and foresters. Membership is on a company basis. If, for example, a company consisting of an individual logger or consulting forester wants to join, the fee is \$100.00 annually. For each employee the fee increases by \$50.00 per person per year.

**Individual Membership**

Anyone who wants to financially support the SFI of PA can do by becoming an Individual Member. The cost is \$50.00 per year and entitles the person to receive the SFI of PA Newsletter and the Annual Progress Report.

**SFI of PA Program Partners**

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

- Baker’s Lumber Company, Inc.
- Blue Ox Timber Resources
- Bonham Log & Lumber, Inc.
- Brode Lumber Company
- BroJack Lumber Company, Inc.
- Brooks Lumber & Timber Harvesting
- Brookville Wood Products
- C.J. Charles Lumber, Inc. ☒
- Carl Hunsberger’s Sawmill ☒
- Champion Lumber Company, Inc.
- Clear Lake Lumber ☒☜
- Cornerstone Forest Products ☒☜
- Cummings Lumber ☒☜
- Custead’s Sawmill, Inc. ☒
- D & D Wood Sales ☒
- DA-JAC Lumber
- Deer Park Lumber
- James Doliveira Lumber
- Edwin Johnson & Sons
- C.A. Elliot Lumber
- Forest Investment Associates
- Georgia-Pacific Corp.
- The Glatfelter Pulp Wood Co.
- Heacock Lumber
- Hoffman Brothers Lumber, Inc.
- R.J. Hoffman Lumber
- Hyma Devore Lumber ☒
- International Paper Co.
- Kern Brothers Lumber Company
- Gerald King Lumber
- Krumenacker Lumber Company
- Kuhns Brothers Lumber ☒☜
- L & H Lumber Company, Inc.
- L & S Lumber Company
- Lapp Lumber Company
- Lauchle Lumber ☒
- Lee Brothers Lumber Company
- \*Randy Leeper Lumber
- Matson Lumber Company
- Mountain Hardwoods ☒☜
- Mt. Valley Farms & Lumber Products, Inc. ☒☜
- Ongley Hardwoods
- Ordie Price’s Sawmill
- P & S Lumber Company
- Patterson Lumber Co. Inc.
- Pine Creek Lumber
- Plum Creek Timber Co.
- RAM Forest Products
- Solt’s Sawmill
- St. Marys Lumber Co., Inc. ☒
- Sterling Forest Products
- Tuscarora Hardwoods, Inc.
- W. B. Shaffer Lumber
- Weaver Inc. ☒☜
- Westvaco ☒☜
- Wheeland Lumber ☒☜
- Willamette Industries, Inc. ☒☜


\*denotes new company

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

**SFI of PA Program Supporters**

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

- Antietam Forestry Consultants
- Babcock Lumber
- Bailey Wood Products, Inc.
- Bingaman & Son Lumber ☒☜
- Coastal Lumber
- Hobbes Forestry Services
- Horizon Wood Products
- \*Keystone Chipping, Inc.
- Noll’s Forestry Services, Inc.
- Penn State University (Forest Land Management Office)
- TimberLeads, Inc.
- Red Rock Enterprises LLC ☒☜
- Sylvandale Forestry
- \*Woodland Forest Products
- \*denotes new company

Please send me information on 

SFI’s Partners

SFI Supporters

SFI Program in general

send to:

SFI of PA, 315 South Allen Street,  
Suite 418, State College, PA 16801

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

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Sawmill \_\_\_\_\_ Manufacturer \_\_\_\_\_

Forester \_\_\_\_\_ Logger \_\_\_\_\_

# SFI of PA Training Schedule - May 2002

Call the SFI of PA to register and for confirmation of exact location, (814) 867-9299 or (888) 734-9366. Schedule is subject to change, courses with less than 15 participants will not be held. More courses will be added throughout the year. SAF CFE credit available for most courses.

## May

GOL Level I	Mon. May 6	Warriors Mark (Centre CO.)
GOL Level I	Tues. May 7	Confluence (Somerset Co.)
First Aid /CPR	Wed. May 8	Mifflintown
Forest Ecology (SF I)	Thurs. May 9	Spinnerstown, Trinity Great Swamp Church
First Aid / CPR	Wed. May 15	Chambersburg
Business Management	Wed. May 15	Bedford, Arena Restaurant

\*Watershed Assessment and Monitoring Wed. May 15 & Thurs. May 16 State College

***\*(counts for SFI CE credit, call Penn State University 814-863-1113 to register)***

Logging Safety	May 16	Kane, Kane Country Club
Logging Safety	May 17	Moshannon State Forest, BOF Office

Computer Applications for Loggers	Mon. May 20	PSU, University Park, 105 Ferguson
Computer Applications for Loggers	Tues. May 21	PSU, Mont Alto, Sci-Tech Bldg. 313
Computer Applications for Loggers	Wed. May 22	PSU, Scranton, Dawson Building 119

***(to register for Computer Applications, contact Mona at NELA 315 369-3078 or the SFI of PA office, 888 734-9366 (toll free) for registration forms, seating is limited)***

Sustainable Silviculture (SF II)	Thurs., May 23	Towanda
Forest Ecology (SF I)	Wed., May 29	Chambersburg
Advanced Environmental Logging	Tues., May 28	Bedford
Advanced Environmental Logging	Thurs., May 30	Somerset
First Aid/CPR	Thurs., May 30	Spring Grove

## June

Sustainable Silviculture (SF II)	Thurs. June 6	Trinity Great Swamp Church, Lehigh Co.
Sustainable Silviculture (SF II)	(TBA) early June	Kane Experimental Forest
Environmental Logging	Tues. June 18	Dauphin
Environmental Logging	Thurs. June 20	Fayetteville
Sustainable Silviculture (SF II)	Thurs., June 20	Huntingdon area
Advanced Environmental Logging	June 24 (week of, TBA)	Tyrone area
Environmental Logging	June (TBA)	Kane area
Environmental Logging	June (TBA)	Clearfield area

## July

Sustainable Silviculture (SF II)	Tues., July 9	Blackforest Sportsman's Club, Potter Co.
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## August

Logging Safety	Wed. August 7	Mifflintown
Sustainable Silviculture (SF II)	Thurs., August 8	Penfield BOA Office

## September

Forest Ecology (SF I)	Mon., September 9	Warriors Mark Methodist Church
Forest Ecology (SF I)	Wed. September 11	Chambersburg
GOL I	Wed. September 18	Trinity Great Swamp Church, Bucks Co.
First Aid & CPR	September (TBA)	Berks Co. Red Cross
Logging Safety	September (TBA)	Kane area
Logging Safety	September (TBA)	Clearfield area

## October

Forest Ecology (SF I)	Tues. October 8	Spring Grove
Environmental Logging	Wed. October 9	Spring Grove
Logging Safety	Thurs. October 10	Spring Grove
Environmental Logging	October (TBA)	Kane area
Environmental Logging	October (TBA)	Clearfield area

## November

Estimating Standing Timber	November/December	Kane area
Estimating Standing Timber	November/December	Clearfield area

# Continuing Education courses completed since July 2001

## Core Training Completed

Since July 2001, all the following individuals have completed Core Level training with the Sustainable Forestry Initiative of Pennsylvania. Core Level Courses include First Aid, CPR, Logging Safety, and Environmental Logging.

Peter J. Coutu  
James J. Cubbon  
Carol Custead  
Edward L. Dawes  
Jerd A. Duchi  
Joseph D. Glover  
Gary L. Graves  
Carl Graves  
Harvey C. Hostetler  
Lois Lavoie  
Jeff Maynard  
Bruce Mick  
Richard Mortensen  
Lloyd Munsee  
David J. Nisley  
Casey Olczak  
Don Pringle  
Rick E. Shaffer  
Thomas P. Shields  
Henry F. Smith  
Brian Squires  
Bruce Taylor  
Thomas A. VanGiesen  
Mark Wansack

### Game of Logging 2

Lamar Bauman  
Richard J. Jeff  
David S. Stoltzfus  
Steven U. Stoltzfus  
David C. Zipp

### Log Grading & Bucking

Joseph A. Araway  
Stan Barnett  
David Callihan  
Shay Durandetta  
Mark Eckenrod  
William Geisler  
Ronald P. Harr  
Jon Hoffner  
Sam Jaworskyj  
Craig Kniseley  
Rodney Kniseley  
David G. Krumenacker  
Mark J. Krumenacker  
Craig Lewis  
Randy L. Piper  
Don Pringle  
M. Robert Stewart  
Eric D. Way

### Environmental Logging

Joe L. Grasser  
Alfred Jewart  
Adin Otto  
Robert Williams  
Alfred Kennedy

### Logging Safety

Alfred Kennedy

## Advanced Environmental Logging

Aaron Bailey  
Dwane Barkman  
Steven N. Bucks  
Douglas Cessna  
Donald E. Cessna, Sr.  
Steve Chappe  
James Chappie  
Richard Clark  
John E. Clark  
Tom M. Clark  
Brian K. Fabian  
Karl J. Fitz  
Calvin Gartner  
Ken Gibbs  
Robert G. Depp  
Glen Hills  
Vernon J. Winter  
Kevin B. Klahre  
David H. McKinlin  
Roger V. Murray  
William E. Murray  
Richard Y. Neff  
Timothy Nilan  
Marianne Oettinger, Sr.  
Carol Richter  
Andrew J. Schneck  
David A. Schneck  
Paul Shaffer  
Elizabeth He  
James V. Shaffer  
Rick E. Shaffer  
Patrick Sherrren  
Gregory Shultz  
Gregory Shultz, Jr.  
Randy C. Watters  
Robert S. Wawrousek  
Zane J. Weicht  
Casey D. Weicht  
Murray Wood  
Daniel Wood  
Stephen P. Yukum  
Dennis Yukum  
John C. Zaborowski  
Joe Zehr  
David C. Zipp  
Pipersville  
New Milford  
Emporium  
Emporium  
Austin  
Forksville  
Shinglehouse  
Forksville  
Port Allegany  
Canton  
Montoursville  
Wellsboro  
Troy  
Shinglehouse  
Genesee  
Shinglehouse

## Sustainable Silviculture (SF 2)

John Ainey  
Richard Andrus  
Scott Andrus  
Howard Bajor  
Dwight Bunk  
Tom Deam  
Ken E. Ender  
Scott Davenport  
Dennis Dibble  
Johnsonburg  
David Ellison  
Craig Fields  
Richard L. Garrison  
Joe Graves  
Douglas E. Hyde  
Gregg Jandrew

## Sustainable Silviculture (SF 2) (continued)

John Kennedy  
Stephen K. Larson  
John Levavasseur  
David Lewis  
Robert S. Nearing  
John W. O'Conner  
Mark Ridall  
Harold Ridall, Jr.  
Delos Robinson  
Christopher J. Route  
Brian Severcool  
Michael T. Shaffer  
Gary E. Shaffer  
Jedidiah R. Sorg  
Richard T. Sorg  
Louie J. Stone  
Jack C. Strange  
Dave G. Taylor

## Sustainable Forestry Seminar on 9/19/01

Florrie Alackness  
Ronald E. Andrus  
John Biel  
Stephen E. Billman  
Scott R. Cary  
James A. Chapman  
Richard Conrad  
James B. Davis  
Edward L. Dawes  
Greg Denochick  
John Flynn  
Jon Hoffner  
Curtis J. Hollabaugh  
John R. Latschar  
Rex C. Leeper  
Ben Livelsberger  
Mike McEntire  
Lloyd Munsee  
Jeff Patten  
John T. Redell, III  
Ronald J. Rohall  
Robert G. Shields  
Kevin R. Stout  
Todd Sweet  
Malcolm D. Waskiewicz  
Robert S. Wawrousek  
Ronald A. Weisenstein  
Kenneth J. Wolbert  
Ray Yoder

## Wildlife Management

John Allen  
Stan Brooks  
William W. Brooks, IV  
John E. Brucklacher, III  
John E. Brucklacher, Jr.  
Alvin C. Campbell  
James O. Campbell  
Nelson Clayton, Jr.  
Samuel A. Coup, Sr.

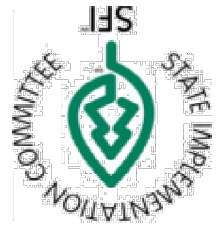
## Wildlife Management (continued)

Russell Denney  
Michael I. Dreese, Jr.  
Steve Eck  
Lloyd Fetzner  
Leon Graham  
Michael L. Graham  
Shawn M. Graham  
Jerry P. Grimaud  
Sean Grow  
Stephen Grow  
Dan Hartranft  
Robert P. Henderson, Jr.  
Gregory Hornsby  
Edward Johnson  
John E. Killinger  
Richard Kordes  
Donald T. Kovalick  
Allan Kowalczyk  
Melvin W. Lewis  
Ronald H. McCarty, Jr.  
Timothy McClincy  
Albert L. Miller, Jr.  
David M. Molsom  
Todd M. Monks  
Sidney J. Mowery  
James Neidrich  
Jeffrey S. Nichols  
Craig A. Olver  
Lester F. Pardoe  
Stephen Pardoe  
David Paulhamus  
Bryan A. Pequignot  
Carl Phillips  
John Preston  
Ronald P. Randall  
Jim Rowe  
Neil Scharder  
Mark J. Selfridge  
Thomas L. Shirey  
Seth Shirey  
Fred F. Stoltzfus  
Jonathan F. Stoltzfus  
Tom Umstead  
Paul Vanderpool  
Richard J. Wagner  
Todd Waldron  
Doug Walker  
Wesley K. Walter  
Keith E. Walter  
Doug Wesneski  
Justin Wesneski  
Mike Wesneski  
Brian Wettlaufer  
Brian H. Williams  
David F. Zucal  
Paul E. Zwald



Return Service Requested

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative  
315 South Allen Street, Suite 418  
State College, Pennsylvania 16801



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Permit No. 131

## SFI OF PA TRAINING PROGRAM NEWS

*Accidents and injuries take place every day in the woods. Some because of a lack of training. Safety is awareness. Our goal is to educate and increase chainsaw and logging safety as well as harvesting responsibly for the good of the forest. Choose to participate. You make a difference.*

### SFI Course Fee Increase for 2002

Beginning in 2002 fees for SFI of PA training courses will reflect the actual cost of presenting the course. The Customized Job Training grant from the PA Dept. of Community and Economic Development has been scaled back making it necessary for a fee increase.

Effective January 1st, 2002:

Core Courses, Environmental Logging and Logging Safety will be \$35. per class.

First Aid & CPR offered through local Red Cross chapters, Fire Depts. etc. Continuing Education Courses \$35. per class for Advanced Environmental Logging, Forest Ecology (SF I), Sustainable Silviculture (SF II), and Wildlife Management. A sliding scale for all other courses in accordance with costs associated with presenting the courses.\*

### SFI Training Policy Changes

Retro-credit for old Sustainable Forestry and Business Management Courses.

Anyone who took the 2 half-day courses under the old system will receive 1 year of CE Credit when they earn their Core Level Card.

### Caps Off!

There is no longer a 3 year cap on the number of years ahead that an individual can earn CE Credits. The original concern was that individuals would take numerous courses in 1 year, then take none after that. Experience has shown that those individuals take courses whether they need the CE Credit or not. Therefore, it does not make sense to penalize them. All participants who have taken multiple CE courses have had those credits applied to their files on the SFI of PA database.

### Change of Policy

CE Credit *will* be granted for First Aid/CPR refresher courses. These classes are available through local American Red Cross chapters as well as others.

### Cancellation Notification—

#### Preregistration is Important!

Courses will be held or canceled depending on the number of paid registrations in hand one week prior to the course. If a course is canceled all preregistered participants will be notified prior to the date. The importance of registering and paying early cannot be overstressed!

### Continuing Education Credit

CE Credit will be granted for conferences & industry events that promote or enhance the ability of those in attendance to practice sustainable forestry.

### CE Course Title Changes

To avoid confusion, the CE courses *Sustainable Forestry I* has been changed to *Forest Ecology* and *Sustainable Forestry II* is simply *Sustainable Silviculture*.

### Continuing Education Course Priorities in 2002

2002 will see limited Continuing Education course offerings throughout the state. Courses will be limited to **Advanced Environmental Logging, Forest Ecology (SF I), Sustainable Silviculture (SF II), and Wildlife Management.** Business Management and Game of Logging (GOL) will also be offered. Other courses such as Log Grading & Bucking can be scheduled if a company can recruit enough people to hold it, minimum number of participants is 15, the maximum is 25. Our goal is to have 1,000 units of training taken during 2002.

### A Reminder to Stay Current!

In order to keep your SFI of PA Training Card current you must take one 8 hour Continuing Education class per a year.

### Got Lunch?

At some workshops, you will be expected to bring your own lunch. *Read the course announcement carefully.*

### Core Training is: Logging Safety, Environmental Logging, First Aid/CPR

Core courses will be on a sign-up basis. If you or your employees need a course, call the SFI Office to register. When an adequate number of people have registered, the course will be scheduled & held at a location that is as centrally located as possible.

### WANTED:

#### Regional Facilitators to teach SFI of PA Courses

Anyone interested in facilitating either Core Level Courses, (Environmental Logging and Logging Safety) or the Continuing Education Courses, please notify the SFI of PA Office at (814) 867-9299.

### Training Status Reports Available

Training status reports on who is current and up to date with their SFI of PA training. The Reports are available through the SFI of PA Office at (814) 867-9299. Reports are compiled by each of the 13 training regions throughout the Commonwealth. Ask for the counties you are interested in.

*\*Fees will be stated on the Training Program Announcements sent out by the SFI Office.*