



June 2024

Enabling Pennsylvania communities to thrive through a successful forest products industry.

Hello,

Welcome to Forest 411, our newsletter dedicated to keeping you informed about the Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee and promoting sustainable forestry in Pennsylvania. Stay tuned for more valuable insights and information!

METZLER FOREST PRODUCTS RECOGNIZED AS FRA'S 2024 NATIONAL OUTSTANDING LOGGER AWARD WINNER



The Forest Resources Association (FRA) honored Alan Metzler and Metzler Forest Products as the 2024 National Outstanding Logger (NOL) Award winner at FRA's National Annual Meeting Awards Dinner in Nashville, Tennessee, on April 30th. FRA Appalachian Region Consultant Jeff Jenkins gave a heartfelt presentation overview of the Metzler family business and operations, highlighting their continuous commitment to safety, core values, and high-quality achievements. FRA Chairman of the Board, Pete Stewart, presented Alan Metzler,

along with his family Jill, Nate, Logan, and Lucas, with the traditional FRA NOL Award plaque, a solid walnut plaque shaped like the U.S. with an axe across it to commemorate his accomplishment. FRA National Outstanding Logger award sponsor STIHL, Inc. also provided the Metzler family with a check for \$1000 as part of the award package. Alan graciously accepted the award on behalf of his family and the entire Metzler team. Alan acknowledged his dedicated wife of over 20 years, his sons, who have now taken leading roles in the business, and his daughters-in-law, who have been a tremendous support to his sons. He reiterated that faith and family were the reasons for his company's success.

A.M. LOGGING RECOGNIZED AS FRA'S 2023 NATIONAL OUTSTANDING LOGGER AWARD WINNER

In 2023 the Forest Resource Association (FRA) recognized AM Logging as the National Outstanding Logger of the Year. Mark Byler, Wes Miller, and Andrew Miller of AM Logging in Millheim, PA were honored by FRA and STIHL as the 2023 National Outstanding Logger at FRA's Annual Meeting in Point Clear, AL on May 9. Receiving a plaque to commemorate the accolade and a \$1,000 check from STIHL were presented for their achievement. The owners acknowledged that their employees and families were the reason for their company's success. Wes Miller noted that A.M. Logging, LLC proudly supports Children's Miracle Network, and will be donating the \$1,000 to the Log A Load For Kids parade that is scheduled for June 9.



*The PA SIC would like to congratulate both **Metzler Forest Products** and **A.M. Logging** for this achievement. We are honored to have both companies on our Implementation Committee.*

KEVIN AND TAMMI SNYDER RECOGNIZED FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO SAFETY BY THE NORTHEASTERN LOGGERS' ASSOCIATION



On May 2, 2024, the Northeastern Loggers' Association presented the award for Outstanding Contributions to Safety in 2023 at the organization's annual Loggers' Banquet in Burlington, Vermont.

Kevin and Tammi Snyder of Pleasantville, Pennsylvania

run a successful logging business along with instructing Game of Logging courses for Pennsylvania's Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) and other organizations. They have taught chainsaw skills to people from many different backgrounds, from seasoned veterans to first-time chainsaw users.

They know the importance of correcting old habits as well as teaching newbies the correct way, always with the goal of safety in mind. Kevin and Tammi have been generous in offering their time to instruct many people in the woods in proper safety procedures over the years. They have influenced others to invest in more modern protective equipment, which has saved people's lives.

The Northeastern Loggers' Association, Inc. (NELA) was founded in 1952 and is headquartered in Old Forge, New York. The organization has nearly 2,000 members in the

region from Maine to Minnesota and Missouri to Maryland. NELA publishes the monthly magazine *The Northern Logger & Timber Processor* and hosts the annual Northeastern Forest Products Equipment Exposition (Loggers' Expo). NELA hosts the Annual Awards Banquet every year on the evening prior to the opening of its annual Loggers' Expo.

NELA serves its membership and the public by advocating for the wise stewardship of our forest resources. The organization develops programs that strengthen the forest products community and help members produce products to meet the needs of the American people.

Learn more about NELA at www.northernlogger.com

Go to Bat for the SIC and Win Big!

Step up to the plate by supporting the PA Sustainable Forestry Initiative Implementation Committee!



SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE PENNSYLVANIA
SFI-01141



By financially supporting* the PA SIC you will be entered into a drawing to win a luxury suite at PNC Park in Pittsburgh on Sunday July 21st for the game between the Pittsburgh Pirates and the Philadelphia Phillies.

Package Includes: (\$4,000 Value)

- 15 Tickets
- 4 Parking Passes
- Food and non-alcoholic beverage package
- PA Hardwood Bat with Company Logo engraved by BWP Bats of Brookville

Great for entertaining current or future clients, customer appreciation or rewarding top tier employees!

All entries are due by July 11th. Drawing will be held July 12th, 2024.



Brought to you by:

TRICK SHOT
SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS &
BWP

TM *Minimum support of \$500.00

By supporting the Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee, you have the incredible opportunity to bask in the excitement of a day at PNC Park. Perfect for commemorating a milestone or impressing a valued client, the Luxury Suites at PNC Park promise an unparalleled "home-field advantage" experience. Nestled on the prestigious Suite Level, these suites provide a sweeping view of the entire infield, ensuring an unforgettable time. The winner will also receive a meticulously crafted baseball bat made from premium Pennsylvania hardwood, skillfully manufactured in the heart of Brookville, PA by BWP Bats. Simply click on the 2024 Annual Assessment button below, and fill out the 2024 assessment form and submit it with a minimum commitment of \$500.00 to automatically be entered into the drawing. Winner will be chosen on **Friday July 12, 2024.**

If you have already submitted your 2024 Assessment Form and you've reached the \$500 minimum, they you are already in the drawing.

**2024 Annual
Assessment**

This drawing is made possible by the folks at Trick Shot Sustainable Products and BWP Bats.



MONTH IN REVIEW

AHUG holds it's annual dinner

The Allegheny Hardwood Utilization Group held their annual dinner at the Red Fern in St. Marys. The insightful discussions led by Seth Cassell, Pennsylvania State Forester, on the DCNR Bureau of Forestry's key objectives, and the enlightening presentation by Amy Shields highlighting AHUG's dedication to enhancing the industry through innovative programs and initiatives, left us inspired and motivated. It's an honor to collaborate with AHUG and our esteemed partners who are actively shaping a positive impact in the wood products industry.



Pictured left to right: AHUG President, Jon Saf of Generations Forestry; Seth Cassell, DCNR State Forester; Amy Shields, AHUG Executive Director.

The PA SIC attends Curwensville's 15th Logs to Lumber Event

Since 2009, Curwensville Area high schoolers in the Logs to Lumber club have been hosting an annual celebration of all occupations that utilize or support forestry, lumber and timbering on the school grounds. The spring event has undergone significant growth and transformation, evolving from a humble gathering of shop students showcasing their skills to a vibrant platform where business owners proudly exhibit their products and expertise. By offering a platform for students to explore various fields such as forestry, logging, farming, carpentry, and conservation, this club equips them with the necessary skills and insights to pursue their aspirations, whether it be a professional career or simply creating something meaningful for their loved ones.

The Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee was proud to once again participate in

this event and share our perspective on the importance of sustainable forest management in Pennsylvania. We used furs generously donated to the SIC last year by the PA Trappers Association to talk with students about how forest management benefits Pennsylvania wildlife, and large prints of the Allegheny National Forest's famous Arnot photo study to show how a forest grows after being harvested. Along side our table were partners from DCNR Forestry's Moshannon State Forest, AHUG, and the Lumber Heritage Region.



PA SIC partnered with the Moshannon State Forest, and displayed along side the Allegheny Hardwood Utilization Group and the Lumber Heritage Region.

Upcoming Events & Trainings

Are you interested in learning how to sustainably manage your forest for optimal health, resiliency, and wildlife habitat through a field tour? IUP Research Institute, PA Game Commission, and PA DCNR are hosting the upcoming Northcentral Region Tour for private forest landowners on June 7th, 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. at State Game Lands 100 in Centre County. Registration is required for this tour, so click on the link below for more info and to sign up. Don't miss this opportunity to learn the latest scientific recommendations and hear from experts in the field.

[Register for Tour](#)

Sustainable Forest Management Field Tours for Private Landowners

Northcentral Region Tour
SGL 100 (Centre County)
Friday, June 7th, 2024
8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

IUP  

Loggers - Get money back on training fees!!

Are you aware of an agricultural training reimbursement program from **AgConnect**? This can help offset the cost of training for eligible employers/trainees with a

reimbursement of up to 50% of the course cost. Click on the link below to learn more about this program and to apply for savings.



[Apply for Savings](#)

INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHT

Our monthly newsletter will showcase our SFI-Certified Organizations, and esteemed SIC Partners and Supporters who's support of the SIC are making a positive impact on Pennsylvania's forests. This month we are highlighting Forest Investment Associates.

Forest Investment Associates (FIA) mission is to provide high-quality, sustainable forest investments that deliver superior performance while cultivating client relationships based on mutual trust and exceptional service.

They are an independent firm with broad employee ownership and a culture rooted in their strong values.

They aspire to be their clients' most trusted adviser.

They believe in the sustainable nature of forest investments and the multiple benefits provided by working forests.

They are committed to being excellent forest stewards and to promoting the highest standards in forest management.



**FOREST
INVESTMENT
ASSOCIATES**

Forest Investment Associates has been an SFI Certified Organization in Pennsylvania for the past 23 years.

[Visit FIA's Website](#)

SFI-certified organizations are crucial to the success of the SFI program. These entities have pledged to uphold the SFI Standards and have received third-party certification from independent auditors confirming their compliance. SFI-certified organizations prioritize sustainable forest management and fiber sourcing practices, which include maintaining forest productivity and health, protecting water quality, preserving biological diversity, and safeguarding special sites. They also provide training and education for employees, contractors, and harvesting professionals, support research efforts, and promote sustainable forestry through landowner outreach and community involvement. In addition to implementing these practices on forestland they manage, SFI-certified organizations also advocate for sustainable forestry practices on other lands.

Who We Are



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