



Fall Issue
2002

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The Sustainable Forestry Initiative® of Pennsylvania



SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE® (SFISM) PROGRAM OVERVIEW OF ON-PRODUCT LABEL REQUIREMENTS

The following information is being provided to offer a sense of what the requirements are for a company to become an authorized user of the SFI Program On-Product Label. It is NOT a complete description of the requirements.

The company/entity wanting to use the SFISM On-Product Label must be certified to the SFI Standard by an independent third-party.

There is one label for those mills that receive most of their raw material directly from the forest (primary producers) and another label for those mills that run largely processed wood (secondary producers).

PRIMARY PRODUCERS on-product label requires that the manufacturing unit procures its raw material from third-party certified forests and through third-party certified procurement systems. 100% of the raw materials going into the labeled product must meet these requirements.

Primary producers must be either full members of the American Forest & Paper Association, or a participant in the SFI Licensee Program.

Primary producers must source their raw materials going into the labeled product from entities certified through the SFI Standard or the American Tree Farm System®.

The third-party certified procurement system may include material from neutral sources, such as recovered wood fiber, and from credible sources outside the U. S., where recognized independent third-party certification standards are not yet in place at the national level, providing that the sources are forest plantations or other well-managed forests harvested in compliance with all relevant laws and regulations and generally accepted sustainable forestry practices.

SECONDARY PRODUCERS must procure at least two-thirds (by weight) of the wood or fiber from sources that are certified to be in conformance with the SFI Standard or the American Tree Farm System® or from neutral sources, such as recovered wood fiber. Additionally, at least one-third (by weight) of the total wood fiber content must come from sources certified to be in compliance with the SFI Standard and/or the American Tree Farm System®.

All materials from outside the U. S. where recognized independent third-party certification standards are not yet in place at the national level must originate from forest plantations, or other well-managed forests harvested in compliance with all relevant laws and regulations and generally accepted sustainable forestry practices.

Secondary producers must provide independent third-party certified evidence documenting certified content to qualify for SFI label-use.

DEFINITIONS

Primary producers — manufacturer of forest products sourcing directly from primary sources.

Secondary producers — manufacturer of products sourcing from primary producers (includes manufacturers of finished forest products such as plywood, furniture, windows, magazines, etc.)

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(Issue #11)

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.

Implementation Committee (IC) Members

Kevin Stout, Chairman
Georgia-Pacific Corp.*

Matt Andrews, Deer Park Lumber
D. Wayne Bender, PA HDC
John Bouch, Pro. Timber Harvesting Inc.
Bill Bow, Appleton Papers, Inc.
Charlie Brown,
Glatfelter Pulp Wood Co.*
Tom Buzby, Weaver, Inc.*

Blair Carbaugh, Private Landowner
Dan Evans, Weyerhaeuser*
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, HLMA
Ken Manno, SFI of PA
Scott Morgan, Georgia-Pacific Corp.*
Ray Noll, SFI of PA
Gene Odato, Bureau of Forestry
Joe Glover, Plum Creek Timber Company

Ken Roberts, Mead Westvaco*
Dave Sienko, Sienko Forest Products
Sue Swanson, AHUG
Susan Stout, USDA Forest Service
Todd Waldron, Craftmaster Manufacturing, Inc.

Mark Webb, Webb Forestry Consulting
Jay Farrell, AF&PA Liason

*DENOTES AF&PA MEMBER COMPANY

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

SFI Program Label Requirements (continued)

Primary sources — logs, pulpwood, and /or chips coming directly from the forest.

Secondary sources — semisolid wood, paper, market pulp, recovered wood fiber, or composite products from a primary producer.

Acceptable standards — Sustainable Forestry Initiative Standards (SFIS), American Tree Farm System (other certification programs may receive similar recognition in the future).

Neutral sources — recycled wood fiber and paper, agricultural by-products, sawdust or dry shavings produced as a by-product of the manufacturing process.

If you are interested in receiving more detailed information concerning the SFI On-Product Label program please call the SFI of PA office at (814) 867-9299. ■

Energy Meeting Fuels Ideas

A regional energy meeting held in DuBois in late July continued the dialogue and exchange of ideas between the forest products industry and those working with power companies. With Pennsylvania being the third largest producer of electricity in the U.S., the feasibility of co-firing wood chips and sawdust with coal is being investigated. In a competitive power market, the process of co-firing could lower fuel costs. At present 57% of Pennsylvania's electricity is produced from coal, while another 36% is produced from nuclear reactors. Reports have shown that Pennsylvania has a very active "green market", meaning PA consumers are willing to pay more for "green power" such as wind generated electricity. The competition of power companies in this state is expected to continue to grow, creating an additional 36,000 jobs by 2004. Competition between power companies serves as an effective regulation device.

West Penn Power Inc., located in Centre County, has a twelve million dollar Sustainable Energy Fund for clean energy technologies, such as wind power, solar power, ethanol conversion, and co-firing. Pennsylvania is recognized as having the fastest growing alternative energy program east of the Mississippi. The West Penn area alone has 57.9 million cubic feet of logging residue which could potentially fuel a generator. But prior to a feasibility study, many basic questions remain unanswered, such as: Where would the power plant be located? Is it cost effective? What price per ton (of wood chips) would make it feasible?

The conversion of wood biomass to ethanol, a fuel additive, is another topic being explored. A mix of 80% diesel fuel and 20% soy ethanol is already being sold at all the gas stations on the Pennsylvania Turnpike. To make it economically feasible for wood,

80 gallons of ethanol would have to be produced from one ton of wood. Some studies have yielded as much as 180 gallons of ethanol from wood conversion. In one Penn State experiment, the invasive species *Alanthis* or Tree of Heaven, was found to produce 35 gallons of ethanol per ton. Until it gets down to actual dollars, all energy possibilities are considered.

Currently Penn State is conducting a feasibility study to heat the University Park Campus with biomass as an effective means of consuming animal manure (10%) and logging residue (90%). Whether or not this type of power plant becomes a reality remains to be seen, but at least the idea is being seriously considered.

In the future it is possible that state mandated legislation will require utility companies to have a certain percent of their total output from an alternative energy source. That legislation will drive the co-firing plants and the wood to ethanol conversions, providing a greater market for the low-grade wood material which needs to be removed so a sustainable forest can flourish.

One key to power plant cost efficiency is that both thermal and electrical energy are utilized by the host facility. Most of the forest products industry representatives at this meeting agreed that an excess of woodchips and sawdust which initially flooded the market after International Paper's closing, no longer exists. The power company representatives called for an "on-going dialogue" between the two industries rather than a crisis reaction, as when a company the size of International Paper closed down. While there was no definitive outcome of the meeting, it proved to be fertile ground for future thinking. Hopefully AHUG and the Pennsylvania Hardwood Development Council will continue to co-sponsor the Energy Meeting as an annual or biannual event. ■

SFI of PA IC Member

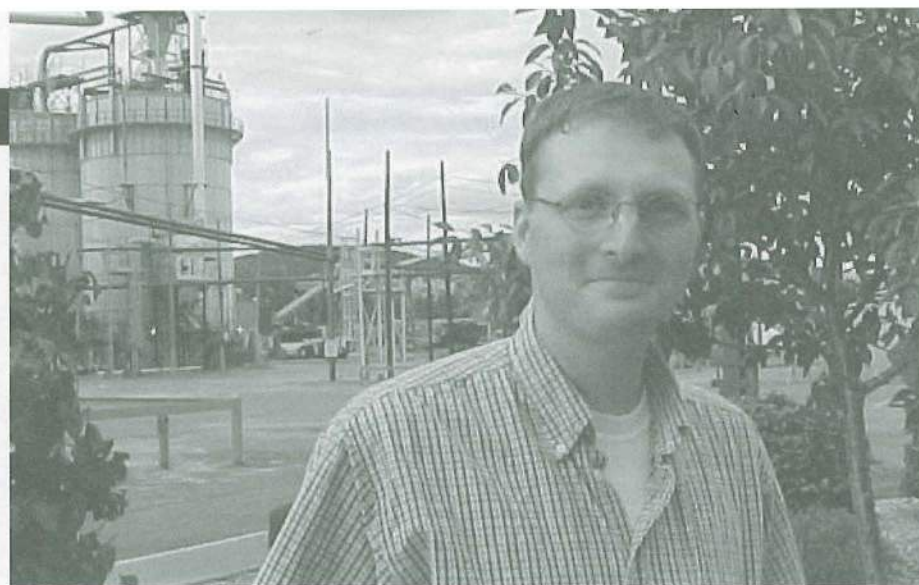
Todd Waldron *of* *Craftmaster Manufacturing*

Todd Waldron is an amiable member of both the SFI of PA Implementation Committee and Training Committee. Through his company, Craftmaster Manufacturing (formerly Masonite), located in Towanda PA, Todd facilitates an average of eight to ten SFI of PA courses a year.

Masonite began to build the plant in 1964 and was producing paneling and peg board by 1966. Their products now are door skins and trim boards. The plant operates twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, employing 530 people working four shifts in the non-union facility. With sixteen acres under roof, Craftmaster is a major employer in the region. Formerly a side business of International Paper, Masonite Corporation was put up for sale in 2000. It was purchased by two wood products companies, T.M. Cobb, in Riverside California and Woodgrain Inc. in Fruitland Idaho. Craftmaster, however, operate as an independent company.

Craftmaster uses 750 tons of green wood a day—all low grade. They buy and process three different types of products: residual sawmill chips from 45 local mills, whole tree chips processed in the woods, and pulp wood brought in as logs which they chip themselves. Craftmaster has 35 suppliers of pulpwood hauling within a 75 mile radius of the mill. Of his suppliers Todd says, "We have seen a trend in the business over the past couple of years. We don't have as many independent logging contractors out there. A lot of them are subcontracting with sawmills like Deer Park who control the stumpage now. It has become so competitive, there are fewer players now but they are bigger, so the loggers align themselves with a particular sawmill to cut the timber the mill has purchased."

In the summer months the eight person wood yard team manages the chip pile astutely because the chips naturally degrade and ferment in the heat making them unsuitable for the manufacturing process. Todd is responsible for the procurement operations which entails contracting out volumes with suppliers and negotiating pricing and managing the wood yard. He has nothing but praise for his cross-trained self-directed wood yard team, all of whom have been with the company



Todd Waldron at the Craftmaster facilities in Towanda, PA.

longer than 20 years. Five members have been there for 30 years.

Craftmaster's operation relies exclusively on gateway wood. They do not own company land, nor do they purchase stumpage. Craftmaster has about 90 suppliers and Todd negotiates volumes and prices. Todd's goal is to see twenty suppliers a month discussing prices, future volumes and general good will visits. Todd promotes the SFI program to contractors during his visits, informing them of upcoming training classes that Craftmaster sponsors. He has recently produced a promotional booklet on the company and how the SFI program fits into their goals. This new handout can be distributed to his contractors, showing the history of the company and includes newspaper articles on SFI of PA training hosted by Craftmaster.

Todd grew up in Chestertown, New York, in the eastern Adirondacks. Coming from a family of avid outdoors people in an area that abounded with outdoor opportunity, it was natural that Todd would be interested in forestry. He earned an Associates Degree from the New York State Ranger's School and a Bachelors in Natural Resource Management from SUNY Environmental Science and Forestry at Syracuse. After the Ranger School, Todd worked two summers as an intern for the Finch-Pryne Company, a paper company in Glens Falls. There, he was first exposed to industrial forestry and really enjoyed it. During his last year at SUNY, Todd was interviewed by International Paper and was later called by Bill McConnell from Masonite, who was interviewing for a new procurement forester. Todd was offered the job and worked with Bill, who was a tremendous mentor. Bill showed Todd the ropes of wood procurement and management before he retired two years later. Todd finds wood procurement a challenging, dynamic business that is never boring because it incorporates business management, forestry science, and a great deal of math.

In the seven years Todd has been procurement forester, the greatest changes he has seen has been in market shifts and the effect it has had on industry. Changes include: Procter and Gamble no longer buys regional wood; International Paper closed the Erie Mill; and Craftmaster closed down a line for siding to retrofit it to trim board—a process they are still developing. Todd comments, "I think we have seen the impacts of global competition really hit hard in the past four or five years. Companies have had to consolidate and shift capacities in order to maintain their stability in a competitive global market. Overseas companies have access to cost effective resources and labor pools. That keeps us on our toes. We have to be progressive and look for value-added solutions. Engineered wood products are attractive and competitive because you are taking something very low grade and converting it into something value-added. The shape of the industry is changing—the old paper mills of the northeast have shifted to lower priced producers. The engineered wood is something we can compete in."

Todd is a member of the SFI of PA Implementation Committee, a Regional Training Coordinator, and a Training Facilitator. Since 1997 Todd and Craftmaster have hosted 46 courses totaling over 800 training units for SFI of PA. Todd feels the aggressive training program has paid off with increased professionalism among their logging force and better performance on the ground. Of recent training sessions Todd says, "Training has been a little lethargic this year. It is hard to get people to come out to our courses. I think Jeff Nichols of Deer Park Lumber, hit it when he said 'folks are in a survival mode'. I believe that is the case. We have been in one of the poorer markets we have seen in this industry in several years. I think that market pressure is one of the most effective means of getting the training out there. I am sure many loggers are waiting to see which companies will require training before they take it."

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Todd Waldron (continued)

Todd thinks those who come in contact with the forest landowner, foresters, and loggers, should be the ones actively marketing the SFI program as a critical solution to the landowner's needs. He elaborates, "One of the strengths of the SFI program is that it acknowledges there are a lot of stakeholders out there in the forest community. It is an integrative approach where people with diverse backgrounds come together and talk about viable solutions for how we do things and the direction we go. The SFI of PA's stability, clout and credibility with the landowner and the general public comes from the healthy cross-section of board members—industry, academia, landowners, and loggers. We need to continue to grow the program and get more partners. It is such a fragmented industry there is still more opportunity out there for us. SFI is a tremendous success story on the part of the forest community. It is collaborative and focused on partnerships. SFI shows we can balance economics, societal needs, politics and ecology for the good of all." ■

In Brief

SFIsm Program Receives International Recognition

In Johannesburg, South Africa, the International Chamber of Commerce and the United Nations Environmental Programme awarded the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® program the 2002 World Summit Business Award for Sustainable Development in recognition of its contribution to sustainable development.

AF&PA president, W. Henson Moore said, "We are honored to be recognized for this award. There were many exceptional partnerships submitted from around the world, showing that sustainability is not just a theory but an idea that is being practiced in partnerships across the globe. That the SFI Program was recognized is a great tribute to every one of our program participants and partners. I accept this recognition on their behalf."

Eco-Terrorists Torch Forest Service Lab in Warren

On Sunday morning, August 11, a serious fire destroyed most of the roof of the U.S. Forest Service's Forestry Sciences Laboratory, known as "The Warren Lab." The destruction could have been much worse, but the quick response to the five alarm blaze along with the professionalism and commitment of local fire fighters helped to save the building. Arson was determined as the cause of the fire with the damage estimated at \$700,000. At the time, research leader, Susan Stout said, "We're down but not out, and you'll all be pleased to know that we've been continuing to collect research data even as we assess the damage to our building and make plans for reconstruction."

In late August, as reconstruction began and the new roof trusses were put into place, an e-mail was sent to the Warren Times Observer from the Earth Liberation Front. It stated they had targeted the 40-year-old federal Forest Sciences Laboratory building in response to timber sales, oil drilling and "greed driven manipulation of nature" on the Allegheny National Forest. The e-mail went on to say that the facility would be destroyed if rebuilt, and all other Forest Service buildings nationwide "should now be considered likely targets."

The e-mail concluded, "While innocent life will never be harmed in any action we undertake, where it is necessary, we will no longer hesitate to pick up the gun to implement justice, and provide the needed protection for our planet that decades of legal battles, pleading, and protest and economic sabotage have failed so drastically to achieve." It was signed "Pacific E.L.F." which provided a helpful clue in the ongoing investigation of the fire by the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the FBI, the Pennsylvania State Police, and the Forest Service. The ATF office in Pittsburgh is offering a \$5,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of those responsible. A hot line managed by agents 24 hours a day has been established at 1-888-283-3437.

Pacific E.L.F. also claimed responsibility for burning a crane and driving metal spikes into trees in an effort to stop a \$31 million highway project in Erie, early in 2002.

Workers at the Warren Lab were shocked they were targeted by the Earth Liberation Front. Susan Stout said, "We perceive ourselves as doing research to promote sustainable stewardship of hardwood forests in Pennsylvania and surrounding states. It seems like an agenda people should be in favor of." The laboratory is internationally recognized for its research on the deer impact on hardwood forests, a 20-year study on sugar maple decline and the effects of acid deposition from air pollution. ■



(L-R) SFI program manager, Ken Manno, George C. Bowman of Lebanon County, winner of the M.K. Goddard Forest Resource Management award, presented by Ron Rohall, president PACD.

Outstanding Resource Management Recognized

George C. Bowman Jr. of Lebanon County received the M.K. Goddard Forest Resource Management Award, given to forest landowners in Pennsylvania that have done an outstanding job of managing their woodlots. Bowman has operated a state-registered tree farm since 1964. The state used Bowman's 170 acre tree farm to conduct tree species testing, and his forestry management and conservation practices have been used by service foresters as an example for other tree farmers. In recognition of his efforts, George was the regional Goddard Award winner in 1983. This award is sponsored by the Sustainable Forestry Initiative of Pennsylvania.

DCNR Grants \$2 Million to Conservation Fund--Acquires 12,000 Acres

The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) has provided \$2 million in grants to The Conservation Fund to help purchase a 12,000 acre tract in Centre and Clinton counties for the public recreation and conservation. The tract, known as the Litke tract, falls primarily within Centre County, near Snow Shoe, and is surrounded on three sides by the 293,000 acre Sprout State Forest. The site is almost entirely wooded. Because it is a major holding to Sprout State Forest, The Conservation Fund will turn the land over to DCNR to be managed as part of the surrounding state forest. DCNR will manage the 12,000 acre addition to Sprout for wildlife habitat, timbering, recreation, and water quality.

Partners Program Spotlight:

Deer Park Lumber

Every industry has companies that go beyond what is expected of them. They provide genuine leadership roles that others attempt to emulate. Deer Park Lumber, in Tunkhannock, PA, is one such company. Besides implementing Best Management Practices in the woods and producing quality hardwood lumber, there is an education and public outreach commitment that makes Deer Park Lumber unique. Deer Park forester, Jeff Nichols, feels a cultural change toward forestry can only begin with educating the public. He says, "Foresters and loggers are getting better trained through SFI, which represents the first step in a new forestry success story for this century. That encompasses both forestry practices and wildlife." In his dealings with landowners, Jeff finds a lot of misconceptions influenced by the popular media, such as, it is bad to cut a tree. He explains to them how forests replenish themselves after they have been cut.

Deer Park Lumber owner, Ron Andrews has been a major proponent of public education besides contributing generously to the Hardwood Development Council's "classroom on wheels", the Pennsylvania Wood Mobile. Ron has former Deer Park employee, Sherry Sabatini lead educational tours at the mill, bringing in as many as 1,000 regional school children a year. Jeff comments, "This is one way of getting our message out to the public. We have a good story to tell and a state-of-the-art mill to tell it in. The kids are familiar with rain forests but know nothing of the temperate forests around them."

Deer Park's advertising is an education campaign as well. Public misunderstanding about the industry extends beyond the forest to what a sawmill actually does. Consumers are familiar only with the end product, not the process. To address this, Deer Park is publishing a new brochure on how their facility operates. Deer Park also sends forestry brochures to landowners outlining sustainable management. The information attempts to assure them that timber harvesting on their property does not have to be a negative experience. The public needs to understand that the demand for wood products is driven by the consumer. That demand continues to increase with population growth. The good news is the re



source is renewable and sustainable and wood products are preferred and desired by the consumer.

Ron Andrews bought the sawmill at the present site in 1982 and has been expanding it ever since, adding dry kilns and a second mill on the property. With production steadily increasing, Jeff Nichols was hired in 1988 to expand Deer Park's timber-buying potential and provide management/forestry assistance for landowners. The amount of privately owned forestland Deer Park manages fluctuates constantly but generally remains between 50,000 and 60,000 acres, along with the 15,000 acres that the company owns. Their philosophy is to provide landowners with forestry services for the long term using sustainable practices. But with the frequent change of ownership many of Deer Park's timber leases are written for two or three years. Their business reputation is often based on performance, with old and new landowners, being treated fairly and pleased with the quality of work in their woods. Deer Park always tailors their management plan to the landowners' objectives, in the hopes of coming back to the property for another cutting sometime in the future.

Jeff feels there is plenty of timber out there—what is questionable is the availability of the resource and the competition for it. His purchase goals are to keep three to six weeks of inventory in the yard depending on the season and year's worth standing in the woods. Referring to the logs in the yard during the heat of summer, Jeff says, "They keep like bananas. In four days they start to crack and stain, lowering the value of the lumber." Deer Park

Jeff Nichols, forester for Deer Park Lumber outside the mill in Tunkhannock, PA.

produces an average of 14 to 15 million board feet per year. All their logging crews have gone through SFI of PA training.

Jeff elaborates on the benefits of the SFI program, "Training gets people looking at the long term and production of a forest—how it can be managed sustainably. I think a lot of the logging contractors have embraced the notion of ongoing updated training. I don't get the resistance to it that I got toward training a few years ago from our contractors. We had a lot of guys trained very fast in the beginning, now it is just a matter of fine tuning the courses and rolling them out. The SFI program is a good philosophy, but it is going to take us awhile to change the culture. My sense is there are people holding back waiting to see if SFI of PA is just PR—which is a component of it, but I see improvements on the ground. There is a strong core of people who think it is a good thing. In these economic times you put your resources into survival, but people are still committed to the SFI program."

Jeff is concerned with the lack of market for the low-grade material and how that affects the thinning needed in many silviculture treatments. He feels it hurts the whole concept of sustainable forestry by not having sufficient outlets for the low grade that needs to be harvested. In an effort to maintain silvicultural practices and improve their woodlots, Deer Park sends their low grade to many different markets in order to get rid of it. Jeff comments, "It is a necessary evil. The problem is these days the markets and the dollars aren't there. You still have to move a certain amount of that material without subsidizing it. It has hurt the logging industry big time—there were many people who depended on those markets."

Jeff wonders how people a hundred years from now will view how we handled the regeneration/deer herd problem. How the decisions made now will change the species composition of future forests. Jeff concludes, "Life is not perfect but we are trying to improve the way we do things and SFI is part of that. We need to stay the course and get more people on board. I have a passion for the forestry work I am doing and I have a company that appreciates and supports it." ■

DEER, ACID RAIN, AND OTHER FACTORS: RESULTS FROM LONG-TERM RESEARCH

by

Susan Stout

Project Leader, USDA Forest Service, Forestry Sciences Laboratory

Sixth in a Series

We wrote the article that follows when Congressman John Peterson inquired about our insights into this question. His inquiry was prompted by a Penn State press release, which is included.

Recently, many Pennsylvanians have become interested in the relative importance of deer and acid rain as causes for regeneration challenges in Pennsylvania forests. The subject is complex and we are grateful for an opportunity to share our research results. The United States Forest Service Research Laboratory in Warren and Kane, PA has conducted long-term research on forest regeneration in Pennsylvania for 70+ years, and our research does cast considerable light on these questions. It is our normal practice to release information on our studies after the results have passed through the rigors of peer review, and I'll distinguish between peer-reviewed results and preliminary results in what follows. Basically, the Penn State press release raises four questions: Will reducing deer abundance improve regeneration outcomes in Pennsylvania forests? Will broad-scale application of 1.5 tons per acre of dolomitic lime improve regeneration outcomes in Pennsylvania forests? Is "acid rain" a problem for forests in Pennsylvania? Has regeneration research been too narrowly focused on deer effects?

Here are our answers to these questions. In an enclosure, I list the publications that we used to develop these answers. Feel free to ask the Forestry Sciences Laboratory for copies of any that you would like to have. Those published in journals after a blind referee process are starred.

Summary

1. *Will reducing deer abundance improve regeneration outcomes in Pennsylvania forests?* **Yes.** Our unit has completed many decades of research that shows that overabundant deer are a primary cause of regeneration challenges and failures in Pennsylvania.
2. *Will broad-scale application of 1.5 tons per acre of dolomitic limestone improve regeneration outcomes in Pennsylvania forests?*

We don't know, but we strongly doubt it.

Our own research on liming, herbicides, and fencing shows that fencing is a much more important way to improve regeneration outcomes. Even at 10 tons per acre of dolomitic limestone, in our study, regeneration responses were complex, subtle, and appeared to be short-lived.

3. *Is "acid rain" a problem for forests in Pennsylvania?* **Probably.** Our research shows a strong relationship between magnesium and calcium nutrition and sugar maple health.¹ Research conducted in other locations shows that these nutrients are leached from soils exposed to "acid rain."
4. *Has regeneration research been too narrowly focused on deer effects?* **No.** As I write this letter, scientists associated with this lab are investigating advance regeneration, deer, soil chemistry, fern, beech, striped maple, and mountain laurel interference with regeneration establishment and growth, forest management activities, and small mammals in current studies that are being measured this summer.

Supporting Detail

1. *Will reducing deer abundance improve regeneration outcomes in Pennsylvania forests?* **Yes.** We have now published three refereed journal articles detailing the impact of white-tailed deer on regeneration processes in Allegheny hardwood forests. As the enclosed press release prepared in association with the soon-to-be published report in *Ecological Applications* notes, these studies show that at lower deer densities, the number of woody species in regeneration and the height growth of many woody species increase while the percent cover of plants that interfere with regeneration decreases. These

studies examine both deer and silvicultural treatment as factors in the regeneration process. Furthermore, public agencies and private individuals would not persist in spending hundreds of thousands of dollars to fence deer out of regeneration areas unless these fences were making a difference. Finally, a careful look at both Dr. Sharpe's press release and his research shows that he, too, believes that deer are an important regeneration problem. Many of his forest studies (as distinct from laboratory or greenhouse studies) begin with fencing to exclude the deer effect.

2. *Will broad-scale application of 1.5 tons per acre of dolomitic limestone improve regeneration outcomes in Pennsylvania forests?* **We don't know, but we strongly doubt it.** We are currently in the process of analyzing regeneration data from a long-term study (now in its 17th year) on the Susquehannock State Forest, and under most circumstances, we would hesitate to share results until they had been thoroughly reviewed for publication in a refereed journal. However, because of the policy implications of the Penn State press release, we share some of these results with you and with our colleagues. In the Susquehannock State Forest study, we treated stands with all possible combinations of liming (10 tons per acre of dolomitic limestone), herbicide, and fencing, and have followed both overstory trees and regeneration since 1985. Fencing is by far the strongest predictor of good regeneration. There are some species that appear to be affected by the lime applications, or by the interaction of lime application and one or more of the other factors, but these effects are much subtler than the fence effect. The effects we do observe appear to be short-lived. While it is not possible to know for certain if those effects would persist if the lime amount were 1.5 tons per acre rather than 10 tons per acre, we believe it to be quite unlikely.

Several studies reported by Dr. Sharpe and his graduate students involve application of 2.94 tons per acre of dolomitic limestone, with mixed results on regeneration. For example, the best annual growth observed in natural red oak seedlings that

received the limestone treatment in combination with fencing to exclude deer and fertilization with potassium and phosphate was less than 2 inches. We believe that a careful, well-designed study of potential rates of lime application should be undertaken before widespread adoption of such a practice would be prudent.

Our studies include only those species that occur naturally in the forests where the study sites are located. Although we have recently increased our research in oak regeneration problems, those studies to date do not include lime additions, although soil and foliar nutrient status will be assessed. But, we believe that the 15-year results in our study are a much stronger basis for devising a list of acid-sensitive and acid-tolerant species than a study of root elongation conducted over 6 days in a Penn State lab, as Dr. Sharpe's list was prepared. Thus, we believe that sugar maple is indeed sensitive to the calcium and magnesium status of the sites where it occurs, while we do not find striped maple to be sensitive to these variables either positively or negatively.

3. *Is "acid rain" a problem for forests in Pennsylvania?* **Probably.** Our research shows a strong relationship between magnesium and calcium nutrition and sugar maple health. Research conducted in other locations shows that these nutrients are leached from soils exposed to "acid rain." Our results on sugar maple health, magnesium, and calcium are primarily focused, to date, on the relationships between these nutrients and mature trees; while we have collected data on regeneration of some of the study plots for sugar maple decline, this data reflects very complex interactions among factors and analysis is on-going (see above).

We have now published several refereed articles detailing the effects of soil nutrition on declining sugar maple. These include a report on the application of ten tons per acre of dolomitic limestone to sites with declining sugar maple and our study of the relationships among natural soil nutrition, foliar nutrition, glaciation, insect defoliation, and forest management. These studies show that soil and foliar levels of magnesium and calcium are closely related to sugar maple decline: where foliar levels of these nutrients, especially magnesium, fall below a threshold level, and where trees have experienced two or more moderate

to severe defoliations within a single decade, decline occurs. Liming increased the growth, survival, and abundance of flowers of mature sugar maple trees.

4. *Has regeneration research been too narrowly focused on deer effects?* **No.** In the 1960s and 1970s, when the forest regeneration problem in Pennsylvania was first noticed, scientists at the Lab instituted a comprehensive study of the factors that might be implicated in these problems. Advance regeneration, soil qualities, deer impact, and forest management were all explored as options. The impact of white-tailed deer emerged from those studies as by far the most important single factor predicting the outcome of regeneration treatments; abundance of advance regeneration was the second-best predictor. In the years since those studies, we have conducted studies that include white-tailed deer abundance, presence and composition of interfering plant communities, forest management activities, soil chemistry, soil moisture, understory light conditions, glacial history, and small mammals—and probably some others that I haven't remembered. Often, we find that we must fence a research area to exclude deer in order to measure the effects of these other factors, since the impact of overabundant deer can be so overwhelming. As I write this letter, scientists associated with this lab are investigating advance regeneration, deer, soil chemistry, fern, beech, striped maple, and mountain laurel interference with regeneration establishment and growth, forest management activities, and small mammals in current studies that are being measured this summer.

I hope that these answers provide you with an accurate and up-to-date overview of how our research contributes to understanding the complex factors that affect the health and sustainability of Pennsylvania's wonderful forests. We will share new results with you as they emerge, and in particular, would enjoy meeting with you to discuss our understanding of the impacts of acid rain and associated pollution on Pennsylvania's forests. We recognize that these impacts are of current policy interest at the federal level, and would be glad to share our results to inform your participation in those discussions. Thank you for your interest. ■

Penn State press release, May 17, 2002:

PENN STATE EXPERT BLAMES FOREST PROBLEM ON ACID RAIN, NOT DEER

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — Acid rain is more responsible than white-tailed deer for Pennsylvania forests not regenerating, claims a Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences forest hydrologist, who recommends applying lime to remedy the problem.

"I agree that we need to control deer numbers," says Bill Sharpe, who has been studying the affects of acid rain on Pennsylvania forests for 25 years. "But the problem with our forests is caused by more than just deer. The acid-sensitive tree species such as red oak and sugar maple are not going to regenerate well — whether deer are eating them or not. I am worried that we will suffer all of this heartburn over deer and still have a huge problem on our hands."

The problem, according to Sharpe, is that Pennsylvania is downwind from the greatest industrial complex in the world — the Ohio Valley — and the state's forest soils have been absorbing acid precipitation originating from there for many decades. The acid comes from sulfur dioxide in the emissions from coal-fired generating plants in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, West Virginia and western Pennsylvania.

"Pennsylvania has been the victim of the most acidic precipitation in North America," he says. "The acid deposition leaches aluminum out of the soils, is toxic to plants and also lowers the availability of calcium and magnesium, which are essential elements for plant growth. It has also eliminated fish from headwater streams all over the state."

"We have a forest regeneration problem and a forest health problem — our forests are sick, but we aren't sure how sick," Sharpe adds. "We do know there is very little regeneration of red oak and sugar maples are dead and dying across hundreds of thousands of acres. And it's obvious deer are not killing large trees. We also know that liming improves sugar maple health and growth."

Sharpe says state and federal agencies that manage vast tracts of forests in the state — as well as many university forest scientists — disagree. They have concluded that deer overpopulation is solely responsible for damage to Pennsylvania forests. But Sharpe claims it's not that simple and believes recent moves by the state to drastically reduce deer numbers will not help much.

continued next page



Regeneration, White-Tailed Deer, Acid Rain, and Other Factors (continued)

"They can kill all the deer, but it will take a lot more than that to fix the forests," he said. "The problem is that nothing is growing well. In places where soils are not buffered by naturally occurring calcium, there is no regeneration of acid-sensitive tree species. I'm offering a different hypothesis — the deer are not the main problem."

In 1998, Sharpe assembled a blue ribbon international team of acid rain researchers to look at Pennsylvania's forest health problems. Their conclusion was that conditions in Pennsylvania's forests were as bad as they had seen anywhere in the world.

In a subsequent Penn State book published in 1998 by Sharpe and associates, titled "The Effects of Acid Deposition on Pennsylvania's Forests," the following species are listed as acid sensitive: red oak, sugar maple, pin oak, black oak, quaking aspen and hickory. Species listed as relatively tolerant of acidic soils are white pine, chestnut oak, black birch and striped maple.

"Foresters complain about the proliferation of striped maple in Pennsylvania's forests without making the connection that it tolerates soil acidity well," says Sharpe.

"Much has been published in the scientific literature and the popular media about Pennsylvania's problems with regeneration of new forests following harvest or other disturbance," the book states.

"Virtually all of the information that has been produced on this subject singularly and without question blames Pennsylvania's forest regeneration problems on an overabundance of white-tailed deer.

"Little, if any, effort has been expended on a wider understanding of this problem — an understanding that takes into account the presence of other serious potential stresses to regeneration, among which is acidic deposition-related soil acidification.

"To understand what is happening to Pennsylvania's forest regeneration, one must embrace the concepts of multiple environmental stresses acting simultaneously," the book continues. "Only in this manner can both observations and research results about regeneration failure be properly interpreted. The fact that deer eat seedlings is indisputable. . . However, what has been completely overlooked is the condition of the seedling being eaten and its capacity to deal with the stress."

To battle soil acidification, Sharpe advocates a simple technique — applying a ton and a half of dolomitic

lime per acre when trees are harvested. He believes liming would cost less than \$100 an acre — far less than the \$370 an acre he says the Bureau of Forestry and timber companies now are spending to fence harvested areas and the \$100 an acre they are spending to spray herbicide to limit growth of ferns, which compete with tree seedlings.

"Our data indicate that red oak grow better when treated with lime high in magnesium," says Sharpe. Lime amounts used in Sharpe's research projects have varied by up to 10 tons per acre, but his most recent work with a 1.5-ton per acre rate has convinced him that it is enough. "The calcium and magnesium have been leached from the soil," he says. "It has to be put back if we want the trees to grow.

"We all want the same thing — a healthy, productive forest," Sharpe says. "I'm just suggesting another way to get it." ■

REFERENCES TO SUPPORT ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ABOUT DEER, ACID RAIN, AND REGENERATION

(Peer-reviewed publications in refereed journals are starred)

1. Will reducing deer abundance improve regeneration outcomes in Pennsylvania forests?

*deCalesta, D.S. 1994. Effects of white-tailed deer on songbirds within managed forests of Pennsylvania. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 58(4): 711-718.

*Horsley, S.B.; Stout, S.L.; deCalesta, D.S. in press. White-tailed deer impact on the vegetation dynamics of a northern hardwood forest. *Ecological Applications*.

*Tilghman, N.G. 1989. Impacts of white-tailed deer on forest regeneration in northwestern Pennsylvania. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 53(3): 524-232.

2. Will broad-scale application of 1.5 tons per acre of dolomitic limestone improve regeneration outcomes in Pennsylvania forests?

Demchik, Michael C.; Sharpe, William E. 1999. Survivorship and growth of natural Northern red oak (*Quercus rubra* L.) seedlings in response to selected treatments on an extremely acidic forest soil. In: Stringer, Jeffrey W.; Loftis, David L., eds. *Proceedings, 12th Central Hardwood Forest conference*; 1999 February 28 — March 1-2; Lexington, KY. Gen. Tech. Rep. SRS-24. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Southern Research Station. (Peer-reviewed paper), 98-102.

Demchik, Michael C.; Sharpe, William E. 1999. Response of planted northern red oak seedlings to selected site treatments. *Northern Journal of Applied Forestry (Field Note)* 16(4): 197 — 199.

*Demchik, M.C.; Sharpe, W.E. 2001. Forest floor plant response to lime and fertilizer before and after partial cutting of a northern red oak stand on an extremely acidic soil in Pennsylvania, USA. *Forest Ecology and Management* 144: 239-244.

Demchik, Michael C.; Sharpe, William E. 1999. The effect of calcium/aluminum ratio on root elongation of twenty-six Pennsylvania plants. In: Sharpe, William E.; Drohan, Joy R., eds. *The effects of acidic deposition on Pennsylvania's forests, Proceedings of the 1998 PA Acidic Deposition Conference*, Vol. 1. Environmental Resources Research Institute, University Park, PA. 211-217.

*Lyon, Jonathan; Sharpe, William E. 1996. Hay-scented fern (*Dennstaedtia punctiloba* (Michx.) Moore) interference with growth of northern red oak seedlings. *Tree Physiology* 16: 923-932.

3. Is "acid rain" a problem for forests in Pennsylvania?

*Drohan, Joy R.; Sharpe, William E. 1997. Long-term changes in forest soil acidity in Pennsylvania, USA. *Water, Air, and Soil Pollution* 95: 299-311.

*Federer, C.A.; Hornbeck, J.W.; Tritton, L.M.; Martin, C.W.; Pierce, R.S.; Smith, C.T. 1989. Long-term depletion of calcium and other nutrients in eastern US forests. *Environmental Management* 13: 593-601.

*Horsley, S.B.; Long, R.P.; Bailey, S.B.; Hallett, R.A.; Wargo, P.M. 2002. Health of eastern North American sugar maple forests and factors affecting decline. *Northern Journal of Applied Forestry* 19(1): 34-44.

*Horsley, S.B.; Long, R.P.; Bailey, S.W.; Hallett, R.A.; Hall, T.J. 2000. Factors associated with the decline disease of sugar maple on the Allegheny Plateau. *Canadian Journal of Forest Research* 30: 1365-1378.

*Knoepp, J.D.; Swank, W.T. 1994. Long-term soil chemistry changes in aggrading forest ecosystems. *Soil Science Society of America Journal* 58: 325-331.

*Long, R.P.; Horsley, S.B.; Lilja, P.R. 1997. Impact of forest liming on growth and crown vigor of sugar maple and associated hardwoods. *Canadian Journal of Forest Research* 27: 1560 — 1573.

4. Has regeneration research been too narrowly focused on deer effects?

This list could be pages long, given our long-term focus on multi-factor regeneration research. We have NEVER published an article that concluded "deer overpopulation is solely responsible for damage to Pennsylvania forests." The selected citations below are intended to illustrate the wide range of factors affecting regeneration that we have studied.

*Auchmoody, L.R. 1982. Response of young black cherry stands to fertilization. *Canadian Journal of Forest Research* 12: 319-325.

*Auchmoody, L.R.; Walters, R.S. 1988. Revegetation of a brine-killed forest site. *Soil Science Society of America Journal* 52: 277-280.

- *Brose, P.H.; Van Lear, D.H. 1998. Responses of hardwood advance regeneration to seasonal prescribed fires in oak-dominated shelterwood stands. *Canadian Journal of Forest Research* 28: 331 – 339.¹
- Galford, J.R.; Auchmoody, L.R.; Walters, R.S.; Smith, H.C. 1992. Millipede damage to germinating acorns of northern red oak. Radnor, PA: US Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northeastern Forest Experiment Station Research Paper NE-667.
- Grisez, T.J. 1975. Flowering and seed production in seven hardwood species. US Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northeastern Forest Experiment Station Research Paper NE-315.
- *Horsley, S.B. 1993. Mechanism of interference between hayscented fern and black cherry. *Canadian Journal of Forest Research* 23:2059-2069.
- Horsley, S.B.; Auchmoody, L.R.; Walters, R.S. 1994. Regeneration principles and practices. In: Marquis, David A., ed. Quantitative silviculture for hardwood forests of the Alleghenies. Gen. Tech. Rep. NE-183. Radnor, PA: US. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northeastern Forest Experiment Station: 205-246.
- *Horsley, S.B. 1995. Regeneration success and plant species diversity of Allegheny hardwood stands after Roundup application and shelterwood cutting. *Northern Journal of Applied Forestry* 11(4): 109-116.
- *Hough, A.F. 1937. A study of natural tree reproduction in the beech-birch-maple hemlock type. *Journal of Forestry* 35: 376-378.
- *Hough, A.F. 1949. Deer and rabbit browsing and available winter forage in Allegheny hardwood forests. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 12(1): 135 – 141.
- *Marquis, D.A. 1975. Seed storage and germination under northern hardwood forests. *Canadian Journal of Forest Research* 5: 478-484.
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- *Ristau, T.E.; Horsley, S.B. 1999. Pin cherry effects on Allegheny hardwood stand development. *Canadian Journal of Forest Research* 29: 73-84.
- Stanosz, G.; Auchmoody, L. 1989. Relationship of seedling height and dolomitic lime application to black cherry leaf spot severity in northern Pennsylvania (abstract). (Abstract) *Phytopathology* 79(10): 1143-1144.
- *Yanai, R.D.; Twery, M.J.; Stout, S.L. 1998. Woody understory response to changes in overstory density: thinning in Allegheny hardwoods. *Forest Ecology and Management* 102:45-60.

¹ Brose conducted this research prior to accepting his current position as a research forester with our lab. Since his arrival in 2000, he has launched several similar studies in Pennsylvania forests.

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Participation in the SFI of PA Program

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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 additional 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 so 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 Fall Training Schedule

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 are added each month. SAF CFE credit available for most courses.

October

Forest Ecology (SF I)	Wed. October 16	Warriors Mark Methodist Church
Wood Structure and Identification Workshop	Oct. 14,15,16	PSU, State College
Environmental Logging	Thurs. Oct. 24	call 814 863-1113 to register
Stormwater Design & Management	Fri. Oct. 25	Cross Creek Resort, Venango Co.
GOL II (prerequisite level I)	Fri. October 25	PSU, State College, call 814 863-1113
GOL II (prerequisite level I)	Sat. October 26	Susquehanna Co. call (570) 756-2429
Estimating Standing Timber	Tues. October 29	Brushville, Susquehanna Co. call (570) 756-2429
Logging Safety	Tues. October 29	Carbon County Conservation Education Ctr.
Environmental Logging	Wed. October 30	Kane Community Center
Logging Safety	Wed. October 30	Craftmaster, Towanda
GOL I	Thurs. October 31	Penfield BOE, Clearfield County
		Indiana County

November

Log Grading & Bucking	November (TBA)	Kane area
Log Grading & Bucking	November (TBA)	Clearfield
Business Management	Tues. November 5	Kane
GOL III (prerequisite level II)	Fri. November 8	Susquehanna Co. (TBA) call (570) 756-2429
Skidder Training	Sat. November 9	Susquehanna Co. (TBA) call (570) 756-2429
Job Layout & Productive Skidding	Thurs. November 14	South Central PA (TBA)
Job Layout & Productive Skidding	Fri. November 15	South Central PA (TBA)
Logging Safety	November (TBA)	Slippery Rock University

December

Estimating Standing Timber	December (TBA)	Kane
Estimating Standing Timber	December (TBA)	Clearfield

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Since May 2002 the following individuals have completed Core Level training with the SFI of PA. Core Level Courses are First Aid, CPR, Logging Safety, and Environmental Logging.

Steve Banks	La Jose
Les Bender	Dushore
Richard Bender Jr.	McClure
Roy Bucher	Lebanon
John W. Burdge	Blairs Mills
Mark Burdge	Spring Run
David Burger	Sugarloaf
William J. Burger	Sugarloaf
Clyde J. Cisney	Orbisonia
R. Sidney Clevenger	Hopwood
Thomas M. Clopp	Warren
Joseph Dannelley Jr.	Cogan Station
Randy Davidson	Mahaffey
Bruce Graham	Woodland
Darrell Graham	West Decatur

Core Courses continued

Jeff Graham West Decatur
 Thomas E. Hanes St. Marys
 Troy A. Hanes Benezette
 James Hoover Karthaus
 Harold House Blossburg
 Douglas A. Johnson Kane
 Jeffrey F. Jarrett Ft. Loudan
 Rudy Kocjancic Johnsonburg
 Clayton Maines Woodland
 Doug Maines Woodland
 Arlen E. McPherson Galeton
 Dale A. Moyer Shinglehouse
 Gregory Powers Dalmatia
 Benjamin A. Pupek III Pottstown
 Jody M. Rotz Spring Run
 F. Russell Sherwood Lewistown
 Ken Smith McVeytown
 Michael D. Waldron Biglerville
 George Williams Jr. Coalport

Continuing Education courses completed since May 2002**Business Management**

Richard A. Andrus Emporium
 Scott Andrus Emporium
 Steve Banks La Jose
 Robert L. Bumbarger Woodland
 Larry Cleaver Howard
 Samuel W. Gates Howard
 Curt P. Gosnell Ridgway
 Walt Graham Hopwood
 Ted Hubler Allport
 Donald T. Kovalick Frenchville
 David Lewis Emporium
 Catherine C. Lyon Emporium
 Deloris M. Mertz St. Marys
 Jedidiah R. Sorg Emporium
 Richard T. Sorg Emporium
 Larry Stark Ridgway
 Richard Swatsworth Woodland
 Jim Welker Woodland
 John Welker Woodland

Computer Applications

John L. Herr Everett
 Abram Hoffman Mt. Pleasant Mills
 Caleb Hoffman Mt. Pleasant Mills
 Stephen Hoffman Mt. Pleasant Mills
 Roy E. Longenecker Mifflinburg
 Judy Melville Centre Hall
 Martin Melville Centre Hall
 David C. Quarles Strasburg
 Amy Seyler Jersey Shore
 Becky Wagner Friendsville

Advanced Environmental Logging

Edgar Augustine Addison
 Roy Callihan New Paris
 John T. Cessna Clearville
 Norman Coberly Meyersdale
 Kevin Croyle Schellsburg
 Paul L. Custer, Jr. Frostburg
 Don Grant Buckhannon
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 Timothy Hogan Greensburg
 Ronald E. Keister, Sr. Frostburg
 Paul L. Lepley Meyersdale
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 Steve Milauskas Morgantown
 David O'Barto Latrobe
 Merle Piper Latrobe
 George L. Salyards Duncansville
 Charles Salyards Jr. Duncansville
 Daniel Sarver Confluence
 David W. Shaffer Boswell
 Joseph S. Swank Friedens
 Sidney Weaver Everett
 George E. Weimer Lonaconing
 John A. Weimer Lonaconing
 Allen Weyant Claysburg
 David R. Whitfield Bedford
 John Whitfield Bedford
 Samuel T. Yokum Clearville
 Wesley Yokum Clearville

PSU Professional Program

Phil Frantz Friendsville

Forest Ecology

Lisa Aldinger Gardners
 Joseph M. Baker Fayetteville
 Michael D. Baker Fayetteville
 Ray Bange McConnellsburg
 Kevin E. Black Chambersburg
 Wade A. Black Aspers
 Doug L. Brumbaugh Mapleton Depot
 Gary Cole Biglerville
 Troy Coons Fayetteville
 Roderick Duvall, Jr. Crystal Springs
 Roderick Duvall, Sr. Crystal Springs
 Steve Forrester Shippensburg
 Vic Gilbert York Springs
 George Hurd Chambersburg
 James T. Kauffman Fayetteville
 Michael Kusko Jr. Fayetteville
 Thomas J. Pukavice Jr. South Mountain
 Pierron P. Reasner Neelyton
 James A. Shipp Waynesboro
 Theodore J. Summers Shippensburg
 Matthew R. Watson Blue Ridge Summit
 Jonathan W. Whitsel Mapleton Depot

Sustainable Silviculture

Norman Asel Kane
 Travis Asel Kane
 Richard Bender Jr. McClure
 Andrew Buehler Ridgway
 James O. Buehler Ridgway
 Patrick Chovan Collegeville
 Gene Desposito Bradford
 Jerd A. Duchi Mt. Jewett
 John Flynn Kersey
 Joel Greco Washington
 James T. Hicks Jr. Huntingdon
 Jerry Himes Jr. Milroy
 Abram Hoffman Mt. Pleasant Mills
 Caleb Hoffman Mt. Pleasant Mills
 Joel Hoffman Mt. Pleasant Mills
 Paul Hultman Kane
 Brian Knox Bedford
 Rudy Kocjancic Johnsonburg
 Joseph F. Marquart Smethport
 Ben Martilotta PA Furnace
 Doug Morgan Cassville
 William R. Morgan Huntingdon
 Joseph Pontzer St. Marys
 Thomas Salsgiver Oil City
 James Savitz Pittsfield
 David E. Schmader Endeavor
 Patrick D. Sherren Warriors Mark
 F. Russell Sherwood Lewistown
 Jeff Sleeman Sheffield
 Larry VanCise Centerville
 Todd Wilcox Bradford
 Paul Williams Johnsonburg
 Michael T. Wolf Ebsburg

Wildlife Management

Rhonda J. Bean Greenville
 Geoff Blakeslee Spartansburg
 Nathan Blakeslee Union City
 Robert Blakeslee Union City
 Carol Custead Meadville
 Bill Fenton Greenville
 John Fenton Greenville
 Dan Foley Titusville
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 Gary L. Graves Townville
 Christopher Guth Seneca
 Edward R. Laidlaw Erie
 Darren R. Lippert Meadville
 Lee McCoy Grove City
 Scott W. Seibert Utica
 Matthew P. Shaffer Cambridge Springs
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SFI OF PA TRAINING PROGRAM NEWS

Time Is Running Out for 2002 Training Cards

As the last months of 2002 cool off with the Fall weather and hopefully some rainy days, it is a good time to take advantage of the SFI of PA Fall course offerings. This is especially true of those participants whose SFI of PA card will expire in 2002. One Continuing Education course will keep your card current into 2003.

In the new year the SFI of PA will be rolling out its training program based primarily on information from our database which determines what training is needed in the different geographical regions around the state. Courses whose costs are reduced by a Customized Job Training Grant from the Department of Community and Economic Development, as well as the Hardwood Development Council will also be offered. The underwritten courses are **Environmental Logging, Advanced Environmental Logging, Forest Ecology, Sustainable Silviculture, Wildlife** and all four levels of the **Game of Logging**. *Because of the cost reduction to the participants these courses will be offered frequently over the next year.*

More companies are requiring their suppliers be SFI trained and it is a good idea to stay current. You can make a difference as a professional who has the knowledge to sustain the resource.

Fewer numbers of courses are being offered throughout the state in hopes of greater enrollment and minimizing costs. Take advantage of the courses being offered in your region and stay up to date with your training.

Change of Policy

CE credit will no longer be awarded for First Aid/CPR recertification.

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!

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 or for information on a specific individual.

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

Participant Responsibility

Responsibility is still on the participant to get proof to the SFI of PA office of other training they have recently taken for credit, like First Aid and CPR, approved Continuing Education courses from New York, Ohio and Maryland's Environmental Logging. Also approved Penn State courses and Game of Logging classes. CE Credit will be granted for conferences & industry events that promote or enhance the ability of those in attendance to practice sustainable forestry.

Check Your SFI Card's Expiration Date

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

Core Level Courses Offered by Demand

Call the SFI of PA office (toll free, 888 734-9366) to be put on a regional list to offer Core Courses in your area. Courses will be scheduled with 15 participants.

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.