



Summer 2013 (Issue # 32)

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* Denotes SFI® Program Participant

Questions or comments regarding the PA SFI® newsletter, contact:

Pennsylvania SFI® SIC

211 Barrington Lane
Bellefonte, PA 16823

(814) 355-1010 or (888) 734-9366 (toll free)

Fax: (814) 355-1022

pasfi@sfiopa.org or www.sfiopa.org

Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee (SIC)

NEWS

Timber Harvesters....Log On

Whether it's the laptop in their office, the smart phone in their pocket, the global positioning system in their truck, or the cutting-edge computer technology on their harvesting equipment, today's timber harvesters seem to be embracing technology more and more. Savvy timber harvesters use this technology to manage their businesses, increase productivity, and maintain their competitiveness in the industry.

The Pennsylvania SFI® program has been working hard to keep up. We have continued to develop our website into a convenient and comprehensive one-stop resource for Pennsylvania's timber harvesting workforce. If you have not visited the site lately I would encourage you to log on.

Need to know when your training card expires? You can check the cardholders lists under the Loggers tab. Need a copy of the Non-SFI course credit form, stream crossing permits, or a blank E&S plan for one of your operations? Log on to the Forms page and print out a copy whenever it's convenient for you. Need a copy of the Best Management Practices guide or the OSHA Logging Regulations? Both are available for your reference on the Publications page. You can impress your crew by opening them right on your smart phone while out on your job!

The latest addition to the website allows individuals to register for PA SFI training courses online and pay for them using a credit card. Gone are the days of hunting down a copy of the current registration form and hoping that the mail delivers it to the PA SFI office before the deadline. The new system allows you to review and register for multiple courses at a time, determine how many spaces are still available in each, and instantly sends you a confirmation email with course information and directions when you complete your registration. You can pay by credit card or opt to mail a check to the office. Credit card payments are handled through PayPal, but you do not need a PayPal account to pay online.

To register for a course, simply log on to the website (www.sfiopa.org) and select "PA SFI Training Courses" under the Loggers menu. After filling out the required registration information select your payment type. If paying by credit card you will be directed to the PayPal site to complete your payment. Click the "Check Out" button on the PayPal website and follow the instructions to submit your payment.

Of course, we will still be accepting paper registration forms and check payments through the mail for those who don't have internet access or who simply prefer to use that method. A copy of the training schedule and registration form is included in this newsletter as always. Please refrain from making registrations by phone unless absolutely necessary.

I will end with a quick reminder that this fall will be the last time individuals who have or have had a valid PA SFI training card can attend the Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials class for CE credit.

Chuck Coup
Program Manager

Have a smart phone? You can instantly access the PA SFI website on your phone by scanning the Quick Response (QR) code to the right using a QR code reader app like *RedLaser* or *QR Droid*. Check it out!



Visit PA SFI online:
www.sfiopa.org



Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®)

SFI Inc. (www.sfiprogram.org) is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization, and is solely responsible for maintaining, overseeing and improving the internationally recognized Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) program. Over two hundred million acres (81 million hectares) are certified to the SFI forest management standard, making it the largest single forest standard in the world. SFI chain-of-custody certification tells buyers the percentage of fiber from certified forests, certified sourcing and/or post-consumer recycled content. The SFI program's unique fiber sourcing requirements promote responsible forest management on all suppliers' lands. SFI Inc. is governed by a three-chamber board of directors representing environmental, social and economic sectors equally. In order to broaden the practice of sustainable forestry in our state, the PA SFI Implementation Committee was formed in 1995. Today, the PA SFI® program works to ensure the progress of the national initiative and advance sustainable forestry practices here in Pennsylvania.

SFI, Inc. Program Participants Supporting PA SFI

These PA Companies are affiliated with the SFI® Program at the national level through independent third-party certification and provide direct involvement and financial support to the PA SFI® Program.

Domtar Paper LLC

Forest Investment Associates

Glatfelter Pulp Wood Company

Hancock Forest Management

NewPage Corporation

Weaber, Inc.

Weyerhaeuser

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Pa Game Commission Proceeds with More Deliberate Approach to Bat Preservation

*By Paul Lyskava,
Exec. Director of Pennsylvania Forest Products Association*

Last August, the Pa Game Commission (PGC) published a notice of its intent to consider a state endangered species listing for the Little Brown Bat, the Tri-Colored Bat, and the Northern Long-Eared Bat, all of which are experiencing significant population declines due to the impacts of White Nose Syndrome (WNS). That notice suggested that the state listing would include adoption of a variety of management and mitigation strategies that would impact Pennsylvania's timber harvesting industry.

As a result of intense negative feedback from impacted stakeholders and legislators, the Commission announced in October 2012 that it would hold off on taking action and investigate the matter further. In a written release, PGC Executive Carl Roe stated, "At the present time, it is clear that more discussion, research and coordination need to be done on WNS and the other outside factors that are impacting our bat populations, as well as how we can craft solutions that protect bats without threatening the industries that employ thousands of Pennsylvanians."

Those discussions commenced in late April, as the PGC invited about 100 stakeholders to Harrisburg to begin a dialogue on the future conservation of bats.

At the meeting PGC biologists reported that there currently is only a modest understanding of WNS and its impact on bats. There is also little research on the life cycles of these bats themselves, including the detailed forest or individual tree needs and uses of the bat species threatened by WNS.

To date, there has not been a follow-up gathering to the April meeting. A representative from the PGC has stated that the agency will not move forward until it finds a way to protect the species without imposing undue impacts on the industries that will potentially be affected by a state listing and related management of activities.

It is unlikely that the agency will take any further action on the issue this year. Any state action on bats would therefore come under new PGC leadership as current Executive Director Carl Roe has announced that he will retire from the Commission effective January 2014.

Some local, state and national conservation interests are continuing to call for actions to address declining bat populations and protect bats in general. WNS is now impacting bat populations in 22 U.S. States and 5 Canadian provinces. Federal officials are in the initial process of considering a federal endangered species listing of the Little Brown Bat and a number of other bat species.

Back in PA, a number of business and landowner groups, including the Pennsylvania Forest Products Association, are supporting bills which would require the PGC and Fish & Boat Commission to follow a formal protocol prior to listing an animal species as state threatened or endangered. Such a regulatory protocol, which would include mandatory comment periods for the public and regulatory review, is already required of DCNR when it considers state listing of threatened or endangered plant species.

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Program "Partners" are committed to the SFI® Standard and pledge a set contribution annually based on mill production from PA forest resources.

Brojack Lumber Co.
Craftmaster Manufacturing, Inc.
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Dwight Lewis Lumber Company, Inc.
Frey Pallet Company
Heacock Lumber Company
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Program "Supporters" help to promote sustainable forestry practices and pledge meaningful contributions to the PA SFI program.

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RJ Hoffman & Sons Lumber
St Marys Lumber Co., Inc.
Sylvandale Forestry
W.J. Cox Associates
Wheeland Lumber

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Ken Spaich Named AHUG Logger of The Year

The AHUG Logger of the Year was awarded to Ken Spaich of Hazel Hurst at the 45th Annual Kane Area Loggers Safety Meeting that was held on March 27 at Johnsonburg.

Spaich has been in the logging business for over 30 years. He has contracted from Kane Hardwood for all his career, starting as contract cutter. Ken started Spaich Logging in 1995.

Safety is always a priority in his logging business. He has taken the PA SFI core training and always completes his yearly continuing education to maintain his standing. To date Ken has completed a total of 100 hours of PA SFI training. Ken is a volunteer fire fighter, a former scout leader and sponsors NWTF, Camo Cares and the Hazel Hurst youth fishing club.

Other logger of the year nominations were Henry "Hank" Smith, Michael Wingard and Doug Karlene.

Reprinted with permission from AHUG Dimensions - Summer 2013 Edition

Pennsylvania SFI® Support

The PA SFI® program works hard to promote sustainable forestry throughout the state by providing logger training, reaching out to Pennsylvania's forest landowners, and promoting the principles and objectives of the SFI standard.

However, these efforts would not be possible without the generous support of the forty-five companies listed along the left side of this newsletter. They believe that responsible environmental behavior and sound business decisions can coexist to the benefit of present and future generations.

The Pennsylvania SIC would like to thank all of these companies for their support and recognize those who have begun contributing to the program this year: **Frey Pallet Company, Metzler Forest Products, Renno Brothers Lumber, and Cochran & Zandi Lumber, LLC.**

Bill Moves to Address Sales Tax Inequities for Logging

On May 29th, the House Finance Committee reported out legislation that would amend the state Tax Code to extend the sales tax and use exclusion on the purchases of materials used in timbering, as already exists for most other agricultural activities.

Presently, purchases of most equipment, machinery, materials and services used in farming, other agricultural production operations and manufacturing (including sawmilling) are excluded from sales and use tax. But this sales tax exclusion is not currently extended to purchases used in logging operations, creating both an inequity and confusion among farmers, loggers and sawmills.

HB 1183, introduced by state Representative Matt Gabler (R-Elk), would add commercial 'timbering' to the list of activities covered under the farming/ag sales and use tax exclusion. HB 1183 received bipartisan and unanimous support when reported out of the House Finance Committee. The bill must now go to the House Appropriations for further review before possible consideration by the full House.

Reprinted with permission from PFPA The Ticker - May 29, 2013 Edition

Training Card Reminders

With all the many things on the mind of a logger it can be easy to overlook the status of their Pennsylvania SFI training card and let it lapse. Many timber harvesters don't even realize their card has expired until it is too late.

The PA SFI is trying to help keep you up to date by mailing out reminders this summer to everyone with training cards that have expired in 2011, 2012, and those that are set to expire at the end of this year. Keep an eye out and if you get one you should look into registering for classes this fall.





PA SFI® Implementation Committee
211 Barrington Lane
Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823

The SFI® Program is a service of SFI, Inc.

Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee (SIC)

NEWS

Berks County Conservation District Offers E&S Fee Reduction to PA SFI Timber Harvesters

Cash in on your PA SFI® training by taking advantage of a \$75 discount when submitting your timber harvest E&S plan for review at the Berks County Conservation District. Applicants who have proof of current PA SFI training or who are SAF certified can take advantage of the discount.

The Pennsylvania SFI SIC supports the Berks County Conservation district's new fee schedule and encourages other County Conservation Districts to consider adopting similar reductions in their E&S plan review fees for Timber Harvesters who have proof of current PA SFI logger training.



\$23,700+ Raised for Log A Load Program in PA

This year, fundraising efforts among Pennsylvania's logging and wood products companies have raised more than \$23,700 for the Log A Load for Kids program, a nationwide giving campaign through which loggers and others raise funds to provide medical care to kids in need, regardless of their families' ability to pay.

Proceeds from this and other Log A Load For Kids events will be distributed among the five Children's Miracle Network-affiliated hospitals located in Pennsylvania.

In March, a Continental Pheasant Shoot near Tyrone, PA raised \$4,700 for the Log a Load program. Thirty-six shooters from 26 host companies and organizations participated in the event.

This summer, a truck parade was held at Timber 2013, raising \$19,000+ for the Log a Load program. Over 57 loggers, sawmills and others donated to the effort.

The Pennsylvania SFI® contributed to both events.



Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative®

Professional Timber Harvester Training Program

2013 Fall Training Schedule

REGISTER ONLINE AT: www.sfiopa.org/course-registration.php

To avoid course cancellations, pre-registration and payment for all classes is required by the registration deadline.

CORE TRAINING :

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

Course Date	Time	Course Name (Course Descriptions on Registration form)	Location	Cost	Register By
09/10/13 Tues	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Middleburg	\$ 90.00	09/03/2013
09/25/13 Wed	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Blain	\$ 85.00	09/18/2013
09/26/13 Thurs	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Blain	\$ 90.00	09/19/2013
09/27/13 Fri	8:00 a.m.	Basic First Aid and Adult CPR (4 hours)	Blain	\$ 90.00	09/20/2013
10/08/13 Tues	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Penfield	\$ 90.00	10/01/2013
10/10/13 Thurs	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Penfield	\$ 85.00	10/03/2013
10/15/13 Tues	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Laughlintown	\$ 90.00	10/08/2013
10/16/13 Wed	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Laughlintown	\$ 85.00	10/09/2013
10/17/13 Thurs	8:00 a.m.	Basic First Aid and Adult CPR (4 hours)	Laughlintown	\$ 90.00	10/10/2013
10/29/13 Tues	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Dushore	\$ 90.00	10/22/2013
10/30/13 Wed	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Dushore	\$ 85.00	10/23/2013
10/31/13 Thurs	8:00 a.m.	Basic First Aid and Adult CPR (4 hours)	Dushore	\$ 90.00	10/24/2013
11/04/13 Mon	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Emporium	\$ 90.00	10/28/2013
11/05/13 Tues	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Emporium	\$ 90.00	10/29/2013
11/06/13 Wed	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Emporium	\$ 85.00	10/30/2013
11/13/13 Wed	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Huntingdon	\$ 90.00	11/06/2013
11/14/13 Thurs	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Huntingdon	\$ 85.00	11/07/2013
11/15/13 Fri	8:00 a.m.	Basic First Aid and Adult CPR (4 hours)	Huntingdon	\$ 90.00	11/08/2013

- ❖ Individuals insured through Eastern Forestry Insurance Group can have the \$90 registration fee for GOL classes paid by WJ Cox Insurance. Please submit proof of insurance with your registration form.
- ❖ Northern Tier Hardwood Association Members can apply for a 50% reimbursement of registration costs after completing courses. Contact NTHA at 570-265-7753.

CONTINUING EDUCATION TRAINING :

One (1) year of CE credit is given for each four (4) hours of training. See the complete PA SFI® Training Program Policy at www.sfiopa.org.

- If you have or have had a valid PA SFI® Training Card in the last 5 years, you can attend a **Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials** class for CE Credit (see Core training schedule above).
- If you have not taken Game of Logging – Level 1 within the last 5 years, you can attend a **Game of Logging – Level 1** class for CE Credit (see Core training schedule above).

Course Date	Time	Course Name (Course Descriptions on Registration form)	Location	Cost	Register By
09/24/13 Tues	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 2 (8 hours)	Youngsville	\$ 90.00	09/17/2013
10/01/13 Tues	8:00 a.m.	Wildlife Young Forest Initiative (4 hours)	Lebanon	\$ 75.00	09/24/2013
10/02/13 Wed	8:00 a.m.	Harvesting Equipment Safety (4 hours)	Johnsonburg	\$ 75.00	09/25/2013
10/03/13 Thurs	8:00 a.m.	Harvesting Equipment Safety (4 hours)	Towanda	\$ 75.00	09/26/2013
10/11/13 Fri	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 2 (8 hours)	Penfield	\$ 90.00	10/04/2013
10/21/13 Mon	8:00 a.m.	GPS for Timber Harvesters (8 hours)	Uniontown	\$ 90.00	10/14/2013
10/30/13 Wed	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 2 (8 hours)	Dushore	\$ 90.00	10/23/2013
11/07/13 Thurs	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 2 (8 hours)	Emporium	\$ 75.00	10/31/2013
11/08/13 Fri	8:00 a.m.	2013 PA SFI CE Update (4 hours)	Petersburg	\$ 75.00	11/01/2013
11/15/13 Fri	12:00 p.m.	Online E&S Resources (4 hours)	Huntingdon	\$ 65.00	11/08/2013

- ❖ Individuals insured through Eastern Forestry Insurance Group can have the \$90 registration fee for GOL classes paid by WJ Cox Insurance. Please submit proof of insurance with your registration form.
- ❖ Northern Tier Hardwood Association Members can apply for a 50% reimbursement of registration costs after completing courses. Contact NTHA at 570-265-7753.

OTHER CONTINUING EDUCATION TRAINING : (visit <http://sfiopa.blogspot.com>)

The following events are organized by outside groups, and qualify for CE credit. Participants wanting CE credit must submit proof of course attendance and a check for \$20 made payable to PA SFI® SIC for administrative costs. Contact the course sponsor to register.

Course Date	Course Description / Registration Information
09/17/13 Tues	2013 Forest Products Executive Development Workshop (8 hours); State College; \$200; Contact PFPF at (717) 901-0420 to register.
10/09/13 Wed	How to Keep Your Logger Boots Clean (8 hours) – McConnellsburg Vol Fire Hall. 8:00 am; Free to attend, \$20 for PA SFI credit; Lunch provided; To register, contact Fulton County Conservation District at (717) 485-3547.
10/10/13 Thurs	Roach Bauer Forestry Forum (1 hour): "SFI: Creating a Pathway for the Future of Forests" - Kane Area Country Club. 5:30 p.m. \$24 registration. Contact AHUG at hardwood@penn.com or (814) 837-8550.

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

Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative®
211 Barrington Lane, Bellefonte, PA 16823
Phone: (814) 355-1010 / Toll Free: (888) 734-9366 / Fax: (814) 355-1022
Email: pasfi@sfiopa.org / www.sfiopa.org

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Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative®

Professional Timber Harvester Training program

2013 Fall Course Registration Form

SAVE TIME, REGISTER ONLINE! www.sfiopa.org/course-registration.php

- Registration fees are **non-refundable** after the course registration deadline if the course is held and you do not attend.
- Courses may be cancelled if a minimum number of students are not registered by the registration deadline. Please register on time.
- For a full description of the PA SFI® Training Policies, please visit www.sfiopa.org or contact the PA SFI® office.

ATTENDEE	COURSE DATE	COURSE NAME	COURSE LOCATION	COST
(Please Print Clearly / One Course Participant Per Form)				
Name: (Full First, Middle Initial, Last)				
Home Mailing Address:				
Home Phone: () _____ - _____				
Email:				
Make checks payable to "PA SFI SIC"		Phone: (814) 355-1010 Toll free: (888) 734-9366 Fax: (814) 355-1022 Email: pasfi@sfiopa.org Web: www.sfiopa.org	Total Amount Enclosed:	
Mail to: Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative 211 Barrington Lane Bellefonte, PA 16823				

2013 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

CORE TRAINING:

Required to receive a PA SFI® Training Card. All 3 requirements must be completed within 2 years in order to receive a PA SFI® Training Card.

- **Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)** – Part one focuses on recognizing and negating hazards that timber harvesting operations encounter daily. It includes modules covering equipment safety, truck safety and an overview of OSHA regulations applicable to logging. Part 2 focuses on the Erosion & Sediment Pollution Control Plan required by Chapter 102, understanding Pennsylvania's Clean Streams Laws, permits a logger may need when working near streams and wetlands, Best Management Practices (BMPs), and the importance of harvesting aesthetics, job layout, and planning.
- **Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)** - focuses on introducing the participant to the "open face" felling technique and the development of skills to safely use it. Topics covered include personal protective equipment, chainsaw safety features, chainsaw reactive forces, bore cutting, pre-planning the fell, and understanding hinge wood strength.
- **First Aid/CPR (4 hours)** - The focus of this program is on First Aid and Adult CPR training that meets OSHA Logging requirements and American Red Cross (or equivalent) certification. Training can also be taken locally through the Red Cross, EMS, Hospital, etc. Online courses are not accepted by PA SFI.

CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE):

One (1) year of CE credit is given for each four (4) hours of training. CE credit awarded (Training Card Expiration Date) is limited to three (3) years from current calendar year. CE credit will not be awarded for taking the same class more than once in a five (5) year period.

- **2013 CE Update (4 hours)** - The CE Update course will include a PA SFI program update, a demonstration on conducting PNDI online searches, a presentation on bat issues in Pennsylvania, and a forest management field tour.
- **GPS for Timber Harvesters (8 hours)** - Participants learn the fundamentals of the Global Positioning System (GPS) and its application to forest management. This course teaches how an inexpensive, recreational GPS unit and a personal computer can be used to determine tract acreage and boundary length, skid trail/haul road layout, distance and grade, mapping special features, and navigating tracts in unfamiliar areas.
- **Game of Logging (8 hours, each Level)** - These courses cover chainsaw safety and safe/efficient harvesting techniques. **Level 1** (see description under Core Training section). **Level 2** focuses on saw maintenance, chain sharpening techniques, releasing spring poles safely, and directional tree felling.
- **Harvesting Equipment Safety (4 hours)** - From forwarders to feller bunchers to cut-to-length equipment, timber harvesting today has come a long way from what it was just a few short years ago. In some cases, more highly mechanized operations can mean different, if not more chances of someone getting hurt. This course provide instruction on how to recognize what those potential hazards are with more highly mechanized operations and how they can best be handled.
- **Online E&S Resources (4 hours)** - This course identifies and demonstrates free online resources that are useful for developing your operations Erosion and Sedimentation (E&S) Control plan.
- **Wildlife – Young Forest Initiative (4 hours)** - Developed through a cooperative program with the Wildlife Management Institute, this course discusses the importance of creating early successional forest conditions for the benefit of multiple wildlife species. Participants will learn and be given tools to identify and create habitat systems for the American Woodcock, Golden Winged Warbler, and other young forest dependent wildlife species important to forest landowners.

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Email: pasfi@sfiopa.org / www.sfiopa.org

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