

## Summer 2014 (Issue # 34)

# Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee (SIC) Members

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Dennis Brehm, Vice Chair, Weaber Lumber\*

Chuck Coup, PA SIC Program Manager

Charlie Brown, Glatfelter Pulp Wood\* Keith Craig, PA HDC

**Chuck Dibble**, Craftmaster Manufacturing, Inc. **Amy Doty**, SFI Inc.

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Jim Finley, Penn State University

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Bob Hobbes, Hobbes Forestry

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Matt Keefer, PA Bureau of Forestry

Jeff Kochel, Forest Investment Associates\*

Paul Lyskava, PA Forest Products Association

Rand Mathews, Georgia-Pacific, LLC\*

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Ron Rohall, PACD

Todd Sparks, Hancock Forest Management\*

Susan Stout, USDA Forest Service

Sue Swanson, AHUG

 $\textbf{Barrett Wiggins}, \, \mathsf{Deer} \, \mathsf{Park} \, \mathsf{Lumber} \, \mathsf{Co}.$ 

David Williams, Georgia-Pacific, LLC\*

\* Denotes SFI® Certified Program Participant

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

### Pennsylvania SFI® SIC

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### Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee (SIC)

# **NEWS**

### Pennsylvania Loggers Recognized

Ron L. Andrus of Galeton, PA won the National Game of Logging Championship and Soren Eriksson Cup at the 2014 Game of Logging National Competition in Essex Junction, Vermont on Saturday, May 10th.

Seven professional competitors from Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Missouri, New York, Pennsylvania, and Vermont participated in the National Championship after winning their state regional event. With a



combined score of 475 out of 644 points and no safety violations, Andrus had won (or tied for the lead) 3 of the 7 events and beat out the next highest score by 25 points. Andrus is the 24<sup>th</sup> National Game of Logging Champion. He received a \$1,000 prize and will have his name engraved on the base of the Soren Eriksson Cup – the competition's traveling trophy.

Andrus has participated in the Pennsylvania SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training Program since 1998 and has received 72 hours of training. The Game of Logging National Competitions have been going on for 24 years in various regions of the United States. However, this will likely be the last time the national event is held. Pennsylvania won the very first National Competition back in 1991, and now it appears that the event's history will end with a Pennsylvania winner as well.

**Tom Carlson of Kane, PA** was named the Allegheny Hardwood Utilization Group, Inc. (AHUG) Logger of the Year. Carlson was recognized at the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Kane Area Logger Safety Meeting on April 8th in Johnsonburg. AHUG presents this award yearly in their region to the logger who best exemplifies the qualities of professionalism, a strong commitment to safety, and who has community and service involvement.

Carlson is a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation logger who has been in the business for 38 years. He is the owner of Art Carlson Logging. Carlson also participates in the Pennsylvania SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training program. Carlson has dedicated his life to logging, his family, and the people who work for him. His father, Art Carlson, was named Logger of the Year in 2003.

Carlson received citations from local legislators, a chainsaw from Northeast Stihl and Dave's Saw Shop, a golden axe and plaque, a monetary award, and membership from AHUG.



Jim Confer of Ludlow, and Aaron Rowles of West Decator were also nominated for the award.

A sincere congratulations go out to Ron

and Tom on behalf of the Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee.



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!

# Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) Program

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

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

# SFI Certified Program Participants Supporting the PA SIC

These 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® Implementation Committee (SIC).

**Domtar Paper Co., LLC** 

**Forest Investment Associates** 

Georgia-Pacific, LLC

Glatfelter

**Hancock Forest Management** 

Molpus Timberlands Mgmt., LLC

**NewPage Corporation** 

Weaber, Inc.

Weyerhaeuser

# U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Reopens Comment Period on Proposed Listing of Northern Long-eared Bat

By Paul Lyskava,

Exec. Director of Pennsylvania Forest Products Association

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service extended the agency's deadline to April 2, 2015, to make its final decision on whether to list the Northern Long-eared bat as a federally endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The agency has reopened the public comment period for 60 days. Comments to the agency are now due by August 29, 2014.

Consideration of the federal endangered species listing comes as a result of the impacts of White Nose Syndrome, which is estimated to have killed millions of bats in Pennsylvania and other states.

While disease is leading to the bat's decline, a federal endangered species listing would protect the bat and its species from potential sources of mortality and harm. As a result, a federal endangered listing would likely lead to seasonal restrictions on timber harvesting and other protections of known winter hibernacula and summer maternity roosts on both public and private lands.

These new restrictions and requirements will cause scheduling delays and drive up costs for loggers and forest product companies, without making any measurable impact on the survivability of the northern long-eared bat as a species. These new restrictions will also likely be detrimental to the bat, as they could discourage forestry activities that would improve the overall habitat for the northern long-eared bat.

The northern long-eared bat is found in the United States from Maine to North Carolina on the Atlantic Coast, westward to the plains states. They spend winter hibernating in caves and mines. During summer, northern long-eared bats roost singly or in colonies underneath bark, in cavities, or in crevices of both live and dead trees of various species. It has also been found, rarely, roosting in structures like barns and sheds or in caves and mines.

In Pennsylvania, there are 119 identified hibernacula for northern long-eared bats. Fifty-four percent of the state can be considered high or medium quality habitat for the bat, including 88% of state forests and 84% of gamelands.

The USFWS stated that they extended the deadline in order to review and address the substantial disagreement regarding the sufficiency and accuracy of the available data relevant to the proposed listing.

During the reopened comment period, the Service is seeking information regarding the interpretation of scientific studies cited in the proposed rule, along with any additional scientific information not already considered in the proposal. They also seek information on northern long-eared bat population trends, information on white-nose syndrome and current or planned efforts to conserve the species.

For more information on the proposed listing and how citizens can comment, visit the USFWS website:

http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nlba/

(To learn more about white nose syndrome and the bat situation in Pennsylvania, consider registering for the PA SFI training "Bats and Timber Management" this fall)

# PA SFI® Implementation Committee Partners

SIC Partners help to promote sustainable forestry practices throughout Pennsylvania and pledge a set contribution annually to the Pennsylvania SIC based on mill production from PA forest resources.

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

# PA SFI® Implementation Committee Supporters

SIC Supporters help to promote sustainable forestry practices and pledge meaningful contributions to the Pennsylvania SIC.

Appvion, Inc. Bingaman & Son Lumber Brooks Site Services, LLC Brownlee Lumber, Inc. Cochran & Zandi Lumber, LLC Cummings Lumber Co, Inc. Gutchess Lumber, Co., Inc. **Hobbes Forestry Services** Horizon Wood Products, Inc. Keystone Chipping, Inc. P & S Lumber Company Patterson Lumber Company, Inc. RJ Hoffman & Sons, Inc. Rorabaugh Lumber Company St. Marys Lumber Co., Inc. Sylvandale Forestry W.J. Cox Associates Wheeland Lumber Company, Inc.

### PA SFI® Updates & Reminders

- To keep up with the latest PA SFI news, log on to our blog:
  - www.pasfinews.blogspot.com
- Be sure to check the cardholder lists on the PA SFI website before the end of the year to see if your card will be expiring. A copy of the fall 2014 training schedule is included with this newsletter:

www.sfiofpa.org/current

- Save time, review and register for courses on the PA SFI website: www.sfiofpa.org
- Don't forget that the registration fee for all Game of Logging - Level 1 courses offered through PA SFI this fall will be fully reimbursed, thanks to a grant from the PA Hardwoods Development Council (HDC).

# Central Mountain Students Participate in Logger Training

A new partnership between the Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee and Central Mountain High School in Mill Hall, PA allows students enrolled in the school's Natural Resources Management Program to participate in the Professional Timber Harvester Training Program at no cost to the students or the school.

"Pennsylvania's Forest Products industry is recognizing that finding and attracting new employees with the basic skills and work ethics necessary to carry out logging operations is becoming both an immediate and long term problem," said Chuck Coup, Program Manager for PA SFI. "We hope that building partnerships like this will help encourage students at the high school level to consider a future career in the forest products industry."

A report from a November 2013 forum conducted by Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Hardwoods Development Council identifies lack of qualified skilled loggers as one of the top threats to the future of the state's forest products industry.

### **PA Walnut Quarantine Expanded**

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has announced an expansion of its existing Walnut Thousand Cankers Disease (TCD) quarantine in southeast PA due to recent new discoveries of infected trees.

The quarantine is now expanded to include Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia counties. Bucks County also remains under quarantine.

The order prohibits the movement of walnut plants and products from the quarantined counties, including:

- Walnut nursery stock
- Walnut logs and tree trimmings
- Green walnut lumber
- ALL hardwood firewood, mulch and green chips

The products listed above can be moved between counties within the quarantine area without restriction.

For more information search "Walnut Canker" at:

www.agriculture.state.pa.us

#### Pennsylvania SIC Support

The PA SFI Implementation Committee 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 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 our new SIC Partners and Supporters: Firth Maple Products, Inc.; Kort Forestry; Spigelmyer Wood Products, Inc.; Gutchess Lumber Co., Inc.; and Rorabaugh Lumber Company.



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**

### Pennsylvania Forest Products Association 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Forest Products Executive Development Workshop & PFPA Annual Meeting

Tuesday, September 23, 2014

Toftrees Resort , Conference Center and Golf Club, One Country Club Lane, State College, PA 16803

The workshop will be held from 8:15 am to 4:30 pm. Among the highlights of this day long educational event designed specifically for owners, managers and key personnel of forest product companies:

- Featured presenter Bruce Vincent, a third-generation logger from Montana, will give the motivational talk entitled "With Vision, There is Hope" which outlines the important role that forest products can pay in a new vision for environmental stewardship.
- An economic update from a panel including Dan Meyer of the Hardwood Review and well-known Ag and rural economist Dr. Ed Seifried.

 Breakout sessions on conflict resolution; financial planning; team building and social networking for businesses.

The 2014 PFPA Annual Meeting will occur during the evening, with a reception beginning at 4:30pm and dinner & program beginning at 6:00pm. Keynote Speaker for the dinner is DCNR Secretary Ellen Ferretti.

Pre-registration is required and pre-payment requested. Cost is \$200. Additional details can be found by visiting <a href="http://paforestproducts.org/whatsNew.cfm">http://paforestproducts.org/whatsNew.cfm</a> or contacting PFPA at (717) 901-0420.

This workshop qualifies for 8 hrs (2 years) of PA SFI® CE credit. Individuals seeking CE credit must submit a completed course registration form (available at the event), and a \$20 administrative fee (Check made payable to "PA SIC") to the PA SIC office. For more details, contact the PA SFI® office.



## Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee

**Professional Timber Harvester Training Program** 

### 2014 Fall Training Schedule

SAVE TIME, REGISTER ONLINE AT: www.sfiofpa.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 <u>Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials</u>. <u>Game of Logging - Level 1</u>, and provide proof of current <u>First Aid & CPR</u> certification within a 2-year period to receive a PA SFI® Training Card. Refer to the complete PA SFI® Training Program Policy at <u>www.sfiofpa.org</u> for full details.

Course Date	Time	Course Name (Course Descriptions on Registration form)	Location	Cost ❖	Register By
09/24/14 Wed	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Aristes	\$ 85.00	09/17/2014
09/25/14 Thurs	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Aristes	\$ 90.00 ❖	09/18/2014
10/01/14 Wed	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Harrisburg	\$ 85.00	09/24/2014
10/06/14 Mon	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Penfield	\$ 90.00 ❖	09/29/2014
10/07/14 Tues	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Penfield	\$ 85.00	09/30/2014
10/21/14 Tues	9:00 a.m.	Basic First Aid and Adult CPR (4 hours)	Johnsonburg	\$ 50.00	10/14/2014
10/22/14 Wed	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Rixford	\$ 90.00 ❖	10/15/2014
10/23/14 Thurs	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Irvine	\$ 85.00	10/16/2014
10/31/14 Fri	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Noxen	\$ 90.00 ❖	10/24/2014
11/01/14 Sat	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Tunkhannock	\$ 85.00	10/25/2014
11/11/14 Tues	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Emlenton	\$ 90.00 ❖	11/04/2014
11/12/14 Wed	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Mercer	\$ 85.00	11/05/2014
11/17/14 Mon	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Huntingdon	\$ 85.00	11/10/2014
11/19/14 Wed	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Alexandria	\$ 90.00 ❖	11/12/2014

<sup>\*</sup> THANKS TO A SPONSORSHIP GRANT FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA HARDWOODS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, REGISTRATION FEES FOR ALL GAME OF LOGGING - LEVEL 1 TRAININGS WILL BE FULLY REIMBURSED ONCE YOU COMPLETE THE COURSE. REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS THAT FAIL TO ATTEND THE TRAINING WILL NOT BE REFUNDED.

#### **CONTINUING EDUCATION TRAINING:**

One (1) year of CE credit is given for each four (4) hours of training completed. Refer to the complete PA SFI® Training Program Policy at <a href="www.sfiofpa.org">www.sfiofpa.org</a> for full details.

- > <u>Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials</u> (see Core training schedule above) **NO LONGER QUALIFIES FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT.**
- If you have not taken Game of Logging Level 1 within the last 5 years, you can attend GOL-1 for CE Credit (see Core training schedule above).
- Individual with cards that expired in the last 5 years only need to take continuing education credits to bring it back up to date. Beyond 5 years the core training requirements will need to be retaken.

Course Date	Time	Course Name (Course Descriptions on Registration form)	Location	Cost *	Register By
09/15/14 Mon	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging - Level 3 (8 hours)	Shade Gap	\$ 90.00	09/08/2014
09/30/14 Tues	8:00 a.m.	Pennsylvania Wildlife (4 hours)	Spring Grove	\$ 75.00	09/23/2014
10/07/14 Tues	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging - Level 2 (8 hours)	Penfield	\$ 90.00	09/30/2014
10/08/14 Wed	8:00 a.m.	Sustainable Forestry (8 hours)	Penfield	\$ 50.00	10/01/2014
10/21/14 Tues	8:00 a.m.	Outdoor Survival Skills for Timber Harvesters (4 hours)	Swiftwater	\$ 50.00	10/14/2014
10/23/14 Thurs	8:00 a.m.	Outdoor Survival Skills for Timber Harvesters (4 hours)	Waterville	\$ 50.00	10/16/2014
10/23/14 Thurs	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging - Level 2 (8 hours)	Rixford	\$ 90.00	10/16/2014
10/28/14 Tues	9:00 a.m.	Business Management for Timber Harvesters (8 hours)	Clarion	\$ 50.00	10/21/2014
10/30/14 Thurs	8:00 a.m.	Pennsylvania Wildlife (4 hours)	Towanda	\$ 75.00	10/23/2014
11/05/14 Wed	8:00 a.m.	Bats and Timber Management (4 hours)	Blain	\$ 40.00	10/29/2014
11/05/14 Wed	12:00 p.m.	Pennsylvania's Timber Rattlesnakes (4 hours)	Blain	\$ 40.00	10/29/2014
11/06/14 Thurs	8:00 a.m.	Pennsylvania Wildlife (4 hours)	Laughlintown	\$ 75.00	10/30/2014
11/12/14 Wed	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging - Level 2 (8 hours)	Emlenton	\$ 90.00	11/05/2014
11/18/14 Tues	8:00 a.m.	Forest Ecology (8 hours)	Huntingdon	\$ 40.00	11/11/2014
11/20/14 Thurs	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 2 (8 hours)	Alexandria	\$ 90.00	11/13/2014
11/21/14 Fri	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Storm Damage Cleanup (8 hours)	Alexandria	\$ 90.00	11/14/2014

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

### OTHER CONTINUING EDUCATION TRAINING:

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

PA SFI maintains a listing of pre-approved non-PA SFI training courses that we have been made aware of on our website, visit: http://sfiofpa.blogspot.com

Programs may be added or cancelled at any time. Visit <a href="www.sfiofpa.org">www.sfiofpa.org</a> for the most current training schedule. For additional Information, please contact Chuck Coup with the PA SFI® Implementation Committee (info below).

Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative<sup>®</sup> Implementation Committee

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Northern Tier Hardwood Association Members can apply for a 50% reimbursement of registration costs after completing courses. Contact NTHA at 570-265-7753.



## Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® **Implementation Committee**

**Professional Timber Harvester Training program** 

### 2014 Fall Course Registration Form

SAVE TIME, REGISTER ONLINE! www.sfiofpa.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 <a href="www.sfiofpa.org">www.sfiofpa.org</a> 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: Toll free:	(814) 355-1010 (888) 734-9366	Total Amount Enclosed:						
Mail to: Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative	Fax:	(814) 355-1022							
211 Barrington Lane Bellefonte, PA 16823	Email: Web:	pasfi@sfiofpa.org www.sfiofpa.org							
Dollototito, 174 10020	Web.	www.siioipa.org							

#### 2014 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### **CORE TRAINING:**

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

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

### **CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE):**

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

- Bats and Timber Management (4 hours) Bats have been a hot topic in forest management lately, but why? What is this white nose syndrome all about? Learn about Pennsylvania bat species, their habitat requirements, and regulations that protect certain ones. Find out how white nose syndrome is destroying bat populations and what loggers can do to help.
- Business Management for Timber Harvesters (8 hours) Successful business management is fundamental to a successful logging operation. Participants are introduced to the preparation of business plans, documents used for financial analysis, key people, sources of assistance, employee management, and other components of running a successful business. This is a great class for new loggers starting their own business or established loggers looking for a refresher.
- Forest Ecology (8 hours) The environment has a large influence on how the forests grow. Understanding this helps us better manage our forests. This course explores the ecology of Pennsylvania's forests and discusses how to use this information to make wise management decisions
- Game of Logging (8 hours, each Level) These courses cover chainsaw safety and safe/efficient harvesting techniques. They MUST be taken in order. Level 1 (see description under Core Training section). Level 2 focuses on saw maintenance, chain sharpening techniques, releasing spring poles safely, and directional tree felling. Level 3 focuses on handling difficult trees. Topics covered include limbing, wedging techniques and hinge placement. Refer to Level 1 description under Core Training for additional details. Storm Damage Cleanup provides tips on how to safely handle the dangerous pressures and tensions associated with blown-down and storm damaged timber (must have Levels 1 and 2).
- Outdoor Survival Skills (8 hours) This course covers various aspects of dealing with outdoor survival situations. A major emphasis is placed on being prepared for unexpected emergencies and preventing hypothermia. Items to have with you, compass and map skills, and shelter/fire building techniques are among the many aspects discussed in detail. Hands on experience is provided to all participants in compass/map and fire building exercises.
- Pennsylvania's Timber Rattlesnakes (4 hours) Chances are if you have spent any time in Penn's Woods you have come across a Timber Rattlesnake. Most loggers probably wish they never saw another Timber Rattlesnake in their life, but actually, this snake needs the help of Pennsylvania's logging workforce in order to stay off the endangered species list. Habitat destruction as well as poaching threatens the future of Pennsylvania's Timber Rattlesnake Population. Find out what you can do to help.
- Pennsylvania Wildlife (8 hours) a comprehensive four hour course on common wild birds and mammals found in Pennsylvania with a specific emphasis on the habitat needs of white-tailed deer, black bears and wild turkeys. Included will be segments on identifying wildlife foods, tracks, other sign and calls. The legacy of Pennsylvania's premier wildlife artist, the late Ned Smith, will also be covered.
- Sustainable Forestry (8 hours) How do you know that a timber harvest is "sustainable?" What are the consequences of high-grading and diameter limit cuts? This course covers the elements of sustainable harvesting practices and how to assess a stand. It focuses on the forest that remains as a result of the harvest.

Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee

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