



SFI-01141

## Summer 2024 (Issue # 54)

### Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee (SIC) Members

Garin Peck, Chair, Metzler Forest Products  
Kyle Troutman, Vice-Chair, Weaber Inc.\*  
Chuck Coup, Program Manager  
Doty McDowell, Dir. Of Outreach and Dev.  
Mark Ott, Administrative Coordinator

David Andrus, Three Rivers Forest Mgmt.  
(Representing The Lyme Timber Company\*)  
Daniel Anna, Jr., Anna's Consulting Forestry  
Charlie Brown, Charles Brown Forestry  
Shelby Chorba, Northern Tier HW Association  
Matt Gabler, PA Forest Products Association  
Jonathan Geyer, PA Hardwood Dev. Council  
Annie Hussa, Manulife Investment Mgmt.\*  
Matt Keefer, PA Bureau of Forestry\*  
Mark McCall, Pixelle Specialty Solutions\*  
Wes Miller, A.M. Logging  
Gordy Mouw, Sus. Forestry Initiative, Inc.  
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Aaron Rowles, Aaron Rowles Logging  
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Todd Sparks, Nuveen Natural Capital\*  
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Aaron Tyson, Pennsylvania Game Commission  
Jason Wenrich, FORECON, Inc. (Representing FIA\*, FD Timber\*, Jamestown\*)  
Travis Whatley, Georgia-Pacific, LLC\*  
Barrett Wiggins, Deer Park Lumber Co.

\* Denotes certified SFI®-Certified Organization

For questions or comments regarding the PA SIC newsletter or to unsubscribe, contact:

#### Pennsylvania SFI® Implementation Committee

Chuck Coup, Program Manager  
211 Barrington Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823  
(814) 355-1010 or  
(888) 734-9366 (toll free)  
Fax: (814) 355-1022

[pasfi@sfiopa.org](mailto:pasfi@sfiopa.org) / [www.sfiopa.org](http://www.sfiopa.org)

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

# NEWS

### Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee Recognized with Achievement Award

On June 4th, Chuck Coup, Program Manager for the Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee (PA SIC), proudly accepted the SFI Implementation Committee Achievement Award at the 2024 SFI Annual Conference in Atlanta Georgia. The purpose of the award is to recognize SFI Implementation Committees (SICs) for outstanding work in implementing the SFI program, making a difference on -the-ground advancing sustainable forestry and promoting the benefits of forest and forest products certified to the SFI Standard. There are 35 SICs operating in the United States and Canada.



From left, Nadine Block, Senior Vice President of Community and Government Relations, SFI Inc.; Chuck Coup, Program Manager, Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee; Gordy Mouw, Director of Network Relations, SFI Inc.

The PA SIC's contributions include high-quality assessment and training resources to conserve Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value (FECVs), advance water and soil conservation, and support climate-smart forestry practices. "The Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee provides critical on-the-ground support and serves as a model for sharing knowledge across SFI's network," said Nadine Block, SFI's Senior VP of Community and Government Relations.

The PA SIC demonstrated the value of collaborating to encourage forest-focused solutions by proactively coordinating with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to produce fact sheets on SFI standard requirements related to biodiversity and FECVs, which received high marks from auditors for being best-in-class. Other notable achievements include contributions to an updated "Best Management Practices for Timber Harvest Operations" booklet, and for supporting career pathways exploration with the distribution of the publication "Black Faces in Green Spaces: The Journeys of Black Professionals in Green Careers."

"The Pennsylvania SIC is an exceptionally skilled team of volunteers that embraced the new collaborative opportunities highlighted in the 2022 SFI Standards. Their collective experience in forest resource management gave them the technical basis for providing leadership on these initiatives," said Chuck Coup, Pennsylvania SIC Program Manager.

The SFI External Review Panel, which provides ongoing, independent review of SFI and its work, selects the award winner. "The review panel was extremely impressed by the quality of community collaboration demonstrated by SICs across the country. We commend the Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee for its high impact, strategic education efforts to help landowners and loggers successfully execute sustainable forestry practices," said Alice Ewen, Chair of the SFI External Review Panel and Assistant Director of Cooperative Forestry, USDA Forest Service.

The Pennsylvania SIC was previously recognized with this award in 2015 and 2001.

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## Sustainable Forestry Initiative®

At the Sustainable Forestry Initiative ([www.forests.org](http://www.forests.org)), we believe that sustainable forests are critical to our collective future. SFI is a sustainability leader through our work in standards, conservation, community, and education.

At the heart of the SFI Program are SFI Implementation Committees (SICs). The Pennsylvania SIC is one of 35 spread across North America that responds to needs and issues through the SFI Program at the local level. This grassroots network is unique to the SFI Program.

The Pennsylvania SIC's purpose is to promote wise forest stewardship, enabling Pennsylvania communities to thrive through a successful forest products industry. We work hard to support business operations by training and developing the logger workforce, educating the public about the value of working forests, promoting SFI forest certification, and assisting with regulatory issues. Our alliance of deeply committed professionals from across the forestry community builds partnerships with many other conservation organizations who depend on the forest industry to advance their own missions. These relationships allow us to serve with great impact.

Learn more at [www.sfiopa.org](http://www.sfiopa.org)

## SFI®-Certified Organizations Supporting the PA SIC

*These companies operate in Pennsylvania and are certified to be in conformance with the SFI Standard. They also provide direct involvement and financial support to the Pennsylvania SFI® Implementation Committee (SIC).*

PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry

Domtar Corporation

Forest Investment Associates

Georgia-Pacific, LLC

IM FD Timber, LLC

Independent Stave Company

Jamestown, LP

Manulife Investment Management

Nuveen Natural Capital

Pixelle Specialty Solutions

The Lyme Timber Company, LP

Weaber, Inc.

Weyerhaeuser Co.

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## Wildfire Prevention, Preparedness & Response; A New Guide and Training for Pennsylvania Loggers

The Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee recently released a new guide to help Pennsylvania's logging workforce prepare against and respond to wildfires on timber harvesting operations. The guide is available on our website (<https://sfiopa.org/publications/>) and contains helpful checklists for preparedness, prevention, and response procedures. It also includes a fire prevention plan template and risk survey that can be adapted to a company and specific logging operations. The guide was developed in partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Forest Fire Protection Division.

In addition to this guide, a new 4-hour logger training program has also been developed and will be offered across the state during the fall 2024 training block.

In Pennsylvania, liability for causing a forest fire can vary depending on the circumstances and the individual's actions leading to the fire. Individuals who start a forest fire through negligent or reckless behavior may be subject to civil liability. In cases where a forest fire is started intentionally or through gross negligence, criminal charges may apply. Pennsylvania has laws that address arson and reckless burning, which can lead to criminal prosecution. Penalties for arson or reckless burning can range from fines to imprisonment, depending on the severity of the offense and the extent of the damages caused.

Additionally, individuals who start a forest fire may be required to reimburse firefighting agencies and other authorities for the costs incurred in extinguishing the fire. This can include expenses related to deploying personnel, equipment, and resources to contain and extinguish the fire. The Department is not required to prove that the person causing the fire was negligent. It's essential to note that liability for causing a forest fire is determined based on the specific facts and circumstances of each case.

Wildfires in Pennsylvania represent a threat to safety, forest resources, logging capital, and human infrastructure. Nearly all wildfires in Pennsylvania are caused by people. While logging operations are not frequently a major source of wildfires in our state, fires do occur on timber harvesting jobsites and have the potential to expand into larger fire incidences. Timber harvesters therefore have a responsibility to prioritize fire prevention and implement proactive measures that can help reduce the risk of wildfires and protect lives, property, and the environment.

Additionally, the link between wildfires and climate is well documented. The planet is warming with many regions in the United States experiencing increased incidence of wildfire and the undesirable impacts that result. These undesirable impacts threaten not only public safety, human health, and property, but also water quality and quantity, air quality, species habitat, and climate. As climate change exacerbates environmental conditions, the urgency of preventing wildfires becomes increasingly critical.

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative's Fire Resilience and Awareness standards elevate SFI's role in addressing wildfire and require that Certified Organizations limit susceptibility of the forests they own or manage to the undesirable impacts of wildfire, and to raise community awareness of wildfire risks and minimization efforts.

The PA SIC's new publication and training is intended to help Pennsylvania's professional timber harvesters prepare against uncontrolled fire on their operations and enact appropriate responses in the event that a wildfire occurs.



## PA SFI® Implementation Committee Partners

*SIC Partners and their products or services are not SFI certified, but they help to promote sustainable forestry practices throughout Pennsylvania and pledge a contribution annually to the Pennsylvania SIC based on mill production from PA forest resources.*

A&L Wood Inc.  
Cummings Lumber Co., Inc.  
D.H. Dubel Mill & Lumber, LLC  
Deer Park Lumber, Inc.  
Dwight Lewis Lumber Company, Inc.  
Gessner Logging & Sawmill, Inc.  
Heacock Lumber Company  
JM Wood Products LLC  
Kronospan USA - Clarion Boards, LLC  
Lee Brothers Lumber  
Lewis & Hockenberry, Inc.  
Maple Ridge Forest Products  
Mark & Olivia Ott  
Ordie Price's Sawmill, Inc.  
Patterson Lumber Co., Inc.  
Penn-Sylvan International  
Pine Creek Lumber Co.  
Renno Brothers Lumber Co.  
Salem Hardwood, Inc.  
St Marys Lumber Company  
Soap Stone Sawmill, LLC  
Solts's Sawmill, Inc.  
Trumbull Forest Products

## PA SFI® Implementation Committee Supporters

*SIC Supporters and their products and services are not SFI certified, but they help to promote sustainable forestry practices and pledge meaningful contributions to the Pennsylvania SIC.*

A.M. Logging, LLC  
Bingaman & Son Lumber Co., Inc.  
Blue Ox Timber Resources, Inc.  
Brownlee Lumber, Inc.  
C&C Smith Lumber, Co., Inc.  
Cessna Brothers Lumber  
Charles Brown Forestry Consulting  
Eby Sawmill  
Emporium Hardwoods  
Frank Krammes Timber Harvesting, Inc.  
Frey Lumber Company  
Forcey Lumber Company, Inc.  
Horizon Wood Products, Inc.  
Metzler Forest Products, LLC  
Mountainside Hardwoods  
Murdock Forest Management, LLC  
Noll's Forestry Services, LLC  
Northwood Resources, Inc.  
Pennsylvania Game Commission  
Postlewait Logging Company  
R.J. Hoffman & Sons, Inc.  
RAM Forest Products, Inc.  
Remmey - The Pallet Company  
Springfield Hardwood Products, LLC  
Superior Lumber, Inc.  
WBL Hardwoods  
W.J. Cox Associates  
Weaver Brothers Sawmill  
Wheeland Lumber  
WOODBED Corp

## The PA SIC is Working Towards Improving Workers Compensation Rates

In 2023, the Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee (PA SIC) was awarded a \$100,000 grant through the PA Department of Agriculture's Specialty Crop Block Grant Program to develop a safety certification program for loggers.

The hope is that this certification will qualify loggers for lower workers compensation premiums. The project is being conducted as part of a larger effort to address high comp rates for loggers in Pennsylvania.

The first phase of this project involves reviewing logger training programs in New England that already qualify for workers compensation reductions in their state. The goal is to review the training they offer, see where the Pennsylvania SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training program may be lacking, and incorporate that curriculum into a safety certification program based on the SFI Qualified Logging Professional credential.

The next development phase for the certification will look at establishing an in-woods inspection component that actually verifies the implementation of a logging company's safety practices on the ground.

Earlier this spring, Chuck Coup, PA SIC Program Manager, traveled to Skowhegan Maine to review their 3-day Certified Logging Professional (CLP) training. He also visited Southern Vermont to review a Mechanized Equipment Safety training offered through their Logger Education to Advance Professionalism (LEAP) Program.

Both programs provided helpful information and insights that will be extremely useful in developing the safety certification in Pennsylvania.

Too many logging companies in Pennsylvania avoid carrying comp policies for their employees. Timber harvesting is a high-risk job, and we continue to see stories of injured workers facing significant financial hardship and left vulnerable without access to medical care or wage replacement when accidents occur. Businesses also risk legal liabilities and penalties.

## Kevin and Tammi Snyder Recognized for Outstanding Contributions to Safety by the Northeastern Loggers' Association

On May 2, 2024, the Northeastern Loggers' Association (NELA) recognized Kevin and Tammi Snyder with the award for Outstanding Contributions to Safety at the organization's annual Loggers' Banquet in Burlington, Vermont.

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

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

In 2010 Kevin was awarded the Allegheny Hardwood Utilization Group (AHUG) outstanding logger award and was also the recipient of the Forest Resources Association (FRA) Appalachian Region's outstanding logger award. Prior to his career as a Game of Logging instructor, he was a five-time Game of Logging Regional Competition winner and a two-time National Game of Logging Champion.

NELA was founded in 1952 and is headquartered in Old Forge, New York. The organization has nearly 2,000 members in the region from Maine to Minnesota and Missouri to Maryland.

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

Learn more about NELA at [www.northernlogger.com](http://www.northernlogger.com)



The Sustainable Forestry Initiative is a service of SFI, Inc.

### PA SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training Program

*The Pennsylvania SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training Program is geared towards commercial timber harvesters; however, it is open to any individual interested in participating. Courses are offered in the spring (mid-March through mid-May) and the fall (mid-September through mid-November) at locations across Pennsylvania each year.*

Learn more:

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

Register for classes:

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

Find SFI Qualified Logging Professionals or review your training records:

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

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

# NEWS

### ALIFT Continues to Support Injured Loggers

For almost a decade now, ALIFT (Assisting Loggers Immediately Fund Trust) has been giving injured loggers across Pennsylvania “a lift” when they need it most. To date they have been able to help around 70 families and have given out more than \$120,000 in support funds. These funds are designed to carry families through when a logger is hurt in the woods and he or she is out of work with no income. By offering quick, temporary relief, ALIFT allows loggers to focus on recovery and getting back to work. The nonprofit program is vital in an industry that regularly ranks in the top three deadliest occupations in the United States. The Pennsylvania SIC proudly supports ALIFT and asks you to consider supporting the organization as well. For more information or to contribute, contact Jim Soltis at [alifthelp@gmail.com](mailto:alifthelp@gmail.com)

### Get Money Back on Training Fees

AgConnect (<https://agconnectpa.org/>) can help offset the cost of SFI training fees for eligible employers/trainees with a reimbursement of up to 50% of the course cost.



Trainees must be employed residents of Pennsylvania, and the training course must be related to agriculture or agribusiness. Forestry and timber harvesting related trainings, including those offered through the SFI Training Program, qualify for this reimbursement program.

The reimbursement application is very straightforward. You can submit for a single course or multiple courses at a time. For more information and to apply for reimbursement: <https://bit.ly/3TinTnM>

# Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative®

## Implementation Committee

### Professional Timber Harvester Training Program

## 2024 Fall Training Schedule

➤ To register, please visit: [www.sfiopa.org/register](http://www.sfiopa.org/register), or submit the registration form on the back of this page.

### CORE

- Basic First Aid & Adult CPR does NOT qualify for continuing education credit
- Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials and/or Game of Logging – Level 1 can be taken for CE Credit, IF you have not already completed the training in the last 5 years

| Course Date | Time         | Course Name (Course Descriptions on Registration form) | Location                         | Cost +    | Register By |
|-------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| 09/18/24    | Wed 8:00 AM  | Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)    | Dallas (Luzerne County)          | \$ 100.00 | 09/11/2024  |
| 09/23/24    | Mon 8:00 AM  | Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)    | Wellsboro (Tioga County)         | \$ 100.00 | 09/16/2024  |
| 09/24/24    | Tues 7:30 AM | Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)                    | Wellsboro (Tioga County)         | \$ 100.00 | 09/17/2024  |
| 09/30/24    | Mon 8:00 AM  | Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)    | Franklin (Venango County)        | \$ 100.00 | 09/23/2024  |
| 10/09/24    | Wed 8:00 AM  | Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)    | Laurelton (Union County)         | \$ 100.00 | 10/02/2024  |
| 10/11/24    | Fri 7:30 AM  | Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)                    | Laurelton (Union County)         | \$ 100.00 | 10/04/2024  |
| 10/15/24    | Tues 7:30 AM | Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)                    | Penfield (Clearfield County)     | \$ 100.00 | 10/08/2024  |
| 10/21/24    | Mon 8:00 AM  | Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)    | Penfield (Clearfield County)     | \$ 100.00 | 10/14/2024  |
| 10/28/24    | Mon 7:30 AM  | Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)                    | Honey Brook (Chester County)     | \$ 100.00 | 10/21/2024  |
| 11/01/24    | Fri 8:00 AM  | Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)    | Elverson (Chester County)        | \$ 100.00 | 10/25/2024  |
| 11/04/24    | Mon 9:00 AM  | First Aid/CPR (4 hours)                                | Johnsonburg (Elk County)         | \$ 50.00  | 10/28/2024  |
| 11/08/24    | Fri 8:00 AM  | Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)    | Greensburg (Westmoreland County) | \$ 100.00 | 11/01/2024  |
| 11/12/24    | Tues 8:00 AM | Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)    | Blain (Perry County)             | \$ 100.00 | 11/05/2024  |
| 11/13/24    | Wed 9:00 AM  | First Aid/CPR (4 hours)                                | Blain (Perry County)             | \$ 50.00  | 11/06/2024  |
| 11/15/24    | Fri 7:30 AM  | Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)                    | McConnellsburg (Bedford County)  | \$ 100.00 | 11/08/2024  |

- Any employed resident of Pennsylvania is eligible to apply for up to 50% reimbursement of their training registration fees through the AgConnect program. For more information visit: <https://bit.ly/3TnTnM>
- Employees insured through Eastern Alliance Insurance Group can have the registration fee for Game of Logging classes paid by WJ Cox Insurance. Please submit proof of insurance with your reg. form.
- Northern Tier Hardwood Association Members can apply for a 50% reimbursement of registration costs after completing courses. Contact NTHA at (570) 265-7753.
- Allegheny Hardwood Utilization Group (AHUG) has generously subsidized the registration fee for Basic First Aid and Adult CPR training.

### CONTINUING EDUCATION TRAINING

➤ One (1) year of CE credit is given for each four (4) hours of training completed. Refer to the Program Policy for complete details on training requirements: [www.sfiopa.org/requirements](http://www.sfiopa.org/requirements)

| Course Date | Time           | Course Name (Course Descriptions on Registration form)            | Location                        | Cost +    | Register By |
|-------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| 09/27/24    | Fri 7:30 AM    | Game of Logging - Level 2 (8 hours)                               | Titusville (Crawford County)    | \$ 100.00 | 09/20/2024  |
| 10/02/24    | Wed 7:30 AM    | Game of Logging - Storm Damage (8 hours)                          | Tidioute (Warren County)        | \$ 100.00 | 09/25/2024  |
| 10/16/24    | Wed 7:30 AM    | Game of Logging - Level 2 (8 hours)                               | Penfield (Clearfield County)    | \$ 100.00 | 10/09/2024  |
| 10/17/24    | Thurs 7:30 AM  | Game of Logging - Level 3 (8 hours)                               | Penfield (Clearfield County)    | \$ 100.00 | 10/10/2024  |
| 10/17/24    | Thurs 8:00 AM  | Erosion Control in Our Forests (8 hours)                          | Wilcox (Elk County)             | \$ 15.00  | 10/10/2024  |
| 10/18/24    | Fri 7:30 AM    | Game of Logging - Level 4 (8 hours)                               | Penfield (Clearfield County)    | \$ 100.00 | 10/11/2024  |
| 10/21/24    | Mon 12:00 PM   | Pennsylvania Wildlife (4 hours)                                   | Dushore (Sullivan County)       | \$ 50.00  | 10/14/2024  |
| 10/22/24    | Tues 8:00 AM   | The Relationship Between Lumber, Tree, and Log Grades (8 hours)   | Spring Glen (Schuylkill County) | \$ 100.00 | 10/15/2024  |
| 10/23/24    | Wed 9:00 AM    | Wildland Fire Prevention & Response for PA Loggers (4 hours)      | Indiana (Indiana County)        | \$ 50.00  | 10/16/2024  |
| 10/24/24    | Thurs 12:00 PM | PA Species of Greatest Conservation Need (4 hours)                | Galett (Potter County)          | \$ 50.00  | 10/17/2024  |
| 10/29/24    | Tues 10:00 AM  | Intro to Reptiles & Amphibians & Their Habitats Within PA (4 hrs) | Clarion (Clarion County)        | \$ 50.00  | 10/22/2024  |
| 10/29/24    | Tues 7:30 AM   | Game of Logging - Level 2 (8 hours)                               | Honey Brook (Chester County)    | \$ 100.00 | 10/22/2024  |
| 10/30/24    | Wed 7:30 AM    | Game of Logging - Level 3 (8 hours)                               | Honey Brook (Chester County)    | \$ 100.00 | 10/23/2024  |
| 10/30/24    | Wed 12:00 PM   | Boundry Lines, Maps & Deeds (4 hours)                             | Holidaysburg (Blair County)     | \$ 50.00  | 10/23/2024  |
| 10/31/24    | Thurs 7:30 AM  | Game of Logging - Level 4 (8 hours)                               | Honey Brook (Chester County)    | \$ 100.00 | 10/24/2024  |
| 10/31/24    | Thurs 8:00 AM  | Sustainable Timber Harvesting (8 hours)                           | Rock Springs (Centre County)    | \$ 100.00 | 10/24/2024  |
| 11/06/24    | Wed 9:00 AM    | Wildland Fire Prevention & Response for Loggers (4 hours)         | Pottsville (Schuylkill County)  | \$ 50.00  | 10/30/2024  |
| 11/13/24    | Wed 9:00 AM    | Wildland Fire Prevention & Response for Loggers (4 hours)         | Howard (Centre County)          | \$ 50.00  | 11/06/2024  |
| 11/14/24    | Thurs 12:00 PM | Pennsylvania Wildlife (4 hours)                                   | Fayetteville (Franklin County)  | \$ 100.00 | 11/07/2024  |

- Any employed resident of Pennsylvania is eligible to apply for up to 50% reimbursement of their training registration fees through the AgConnect program. For more information visit: <https://bit.ly/3TnTnM>
- Employees insured through Eastern Alliance Insurance Group can have the registration fee for Game of Logging classes paid by WJ Cox Insurance. Please submit proof of insurance with your reg. 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 adjoining states. Training courses taken from other sources may qualify for PA SFI core or continuing education credit, provided the subject of the course is relevant to the SFI program, and if some legitimate form of documentation is provided to the PA SIC office for proof of content and attendance (See section 5.7 of PA SFI Training Program Policy). Outside credits are subject to all Pennsylvania SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training Program Policy requirements. To submit a Non-PA SFI training course 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 SIC office) and send it to the PA SIC office with all necessary paperwork and a check for \$20 made payable to the "PA SFI Implementation Committee" for administrative costs. Note that a separate \$20 fee is required for each course submitted. Refer to the Training Program Policy for complete details on training requirements.

The PA SIC maintains a listing of all pre-approved Non-PA SFI CE training courses that we have been made aware of. It can be found on our website: <http://sfiopa.blogspot.com>

### SELF-PACED/ASYNCHRONOUS ONLINE LOGGER TRAINING COURSES

- Self-paced/Asynchronous online courses give training participants the flexibility to complete training when it is most convenient for them. The user is in control of what they learn, when they learn it, and where they learn it.
- Several self-directed training courses for loggers have been approved for continuing education (CE) credit in the Pennsylvania SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training Program.
- These online continuing education classes require a high-speed internet connection, and a computer or smart phone with functioning speakers.

To learn more and participate in approved online logger training courses go to: <https://sfiopa.org/loggers/virtual-logger-training/>

## 2024 Fall Course Registration Form

- **THIS TRAINING SCHEDULE MAY CHANGE AT ANY TIME WITHOUT ADVANCED NOTIFICATION.** For current training offerings please visit: [www.sfiopa.org/register](http://www.sfiopa.org/register)
- Registration fees are **non-refundable and non-transferrable** after the course registration deadline if the course is held and you do not attend.
- Registration is on a first come, first served basis. Your space in a course will not be reserved until the registration fee is paid. Please do not delay in making payment or your space could be given to another participant.
- 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 Training Program Policies, please visit [www.sfiopa.org/requirements](http://www.sfiopa.org/requirements) or contact the PA SIC office ([mark@sfiopa.org](mailto:mark@sfiopa.org) / 814-230-2866)

| 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 or Cell Phone: (        ) _____ - _____                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                   |             |                               |      |
| Email:                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                   |             |                               |      |
| Occupation (circle one):    • Forester        • Logger-owner<br>• Logger-employee    • Landowner    • Office personnel<br>• Truck driver        • Other | <b>Make checks payable to: "Pennsylvania SIC"</b><br><b>Mail to:</b> PA SFI Implementation Committee<br>748 Gravel Point Road<br>Howard, PA 16841 |             | <b>Total Amount Enclosed:</b> |      |
| Class location and additional information will be sent to you when we receive your registration and payment                                             |                                                                                                                                                   |             |                               |      |

### COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

#### CORE TRAINING:

Required to be recognized as an SFI Qualified Logging Professional. All 3 core training courses must be completed (in any order) within a 2 year period. Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials and/or Game of Logging Level 1 can be taken for CE Credit, IF you have not already completed the training in the last 5 years.

- **Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)** - Covers general safety considerations, chainsaw safety, logging equipment safety (harvesters, loaders, skidders, etc.), trucking safety and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Standards that apply to timber harvesting and related activities. Also covers pertinent aspects of Pennsylvania's Clean Streams laws and other water resource protection regulations, Best Management Practices (BMPs), hazardous material control, and logging 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)** - Because timber harvesting is a hazardous occupation, OSHA regulations require that everyone who works in the woods maintain current First Aid & CPR training from a provider who can issue a certificate or a card as documentation of hands-on training (i.e., no online certifications will be accepted). Individuals do not need to complete this training through the PA SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training Program; however, they must provide proof of First Aid & CPR certification to receive their initial training card (we cannot accept the MSHA 5000-23 form as satisfaction of this requirement). Course duration varies by instructor. **DOES NOT COUNT FOR CE CREDIT.**

#### CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE):

One (1) year of CE credit is given for each four (4) hours of CE training completed. CE credits can only extend your validation 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.

- **Boundary Lines, Maps & Deeds (4 hours)** - This course covers the fundamentals of researching deeds, locating and marking boundary lines on the ground using a map and compass and GPS technology, and how to make maps using conventional paper methods, freeware such as Google Earth, and other mapping software. This training involves both classroom and field exercises.
- **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. Level 4 is a review of previous levels with participants practicing skills at working speed. Storm Damage provides tips on how to safely handle the dangerous pressures and tensions associated with blown-down and storm damage timber (Prerequisite Levels 1 and 2). Game of Logging training is conducted in the field.
- **Erosion Control in Our Forests (8 hours)** - This workshop combines indoor and outdoor instruction time to discuss Pennsylvania's environmental regulatory requirements (chapters 93, 102, & 105 of PA Code). It discusses planning before the harvest, stream crossings, best management practices, reading E&S plans, and other considerations during and after the timber harvest.
- **Intro to Reptiles and Amphibians & their habitats within PA (4 hours)** - This course will provide a better understanding of the "herp" species that are most frequently encountered during natural resource extraction in our state's forests. Instructors will review habitat requirements in terms of breeding activities, migratory patterns, and overall natural history. Live herp specimens and models will be used to sharpen field identification skills and examine each species' unique adaptations. Participants will be introduced to the northeast region's habitat management guidelines endorsed by PARC (Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation) which can be utilized by private landowners, land managers and industry leaders to minimize threats to local herpetile populations.
- **Pennsylvania Wildlife (4 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.
- **PA Wildlife Species of Greatest Conservation Need (4 hours)** - A comprehensive course on Pennsylvania wildlife that are at risk for a variety of reasons. Causes for population declines and restoration efforts for several species will be highlighted. Up-to-date information on the status of state and federal threatened endangered species and potential impacts on timber harvesting will be included.
- **The Relationship Between Lumber, Tree, and Log Grades (8 hours)** - This course will introduce basic knowledge about hardwood lumber grades, tree grades, and log grades. It will explain how the different grades are established and will provide an understanding of how the tree, lumber, and log grades relate to one another.
- **Sustainable Timber Harvesting (4 hours)** - How do you know that a timber harvest is "sustainable"? What are the consequences of high-grading and diameter limit cuts? This online 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.
- **Wildland Fire Prevention & Response for Loggers (4 hours)** - Wildfires in Pennsylvania represent a threat to safety, forest resources, logging capital, and human infrastructure. While logging operations are not frequently a major source of wildfire in our state, fires do occur on timber harvesting job sites and have the potential to expand into larger fire incidents. Participants attending this class will learn wildland fire prevention with proper machine maintenance and job site BMPs to prevent loss from fire. We will discuss weather and other signs to watch out for during increased fire danger months. What to do if a wildfire does occur on your job site, who should you report it to, what to report, fire containment and control measures with hand tools and heavy equipment on site, and how to work with first responders.

Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative®

Implementation Committee

748 Gravel Point Rd, Howard, PA 16841

Phone: (814) 230-2866 / Fax: (814) 355-1022

Email: [mark@sfiopa.org](mailto:mark@sfiopa.org) / [www.sfiopa.org](http://www.sfiopa.org)

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