



Winter 2014 (Issue # 33)

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 Susan Stout, USDA Forest Service
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 David Williams, Georgia-Pacific, LLC*

* Denotes SFI® 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

Program Update

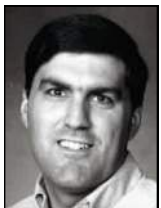
SIC Update

December 31st marked the end of Charlie Brown's term as Chairman of the Pennsylvania SIC. At our quarterly meeting in December, Charlie was presented by the SIC with an engraved clock in appreciation of his service during 2012-2013. His leadership and expertise helped navigate the SIC through

another Program Manager transition (the second in a 2- year timespan) and the continued challenges of reduced program funding. Charlie will continue his longtime involvement with



the program as a member of the SIC. Vice-Chairman Ken Roberts of NewPage Corporation assumed the Pennsylvania SIC Chairman position at the beginning of the year and will serve for 2014-2015. Ken is another longtime participant in the program and this will be his second time serving as Chairman of the Pennsylvania SIC. Dennis Brehm, Weaber, Inc., was appointed as the Vice-Chairman for 2014-2015.



Ken Roberts, Chairman



Dennis Brehm, V. Chair

Training Program Update

The 2014 spring training schedule is included in this newsletter. Please note that Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials will no longer be eligible for continuing education (CE) credits. Game of Logging - Level 1 is still eligible for CE credit as long as you have not taken it within the last 5 years. Also note that registration fees for all Game of Logging - Level 1 courses being offered through the PA SFI program this year will be **FULLY REIMBURSED** after you complete the training. This reimbursement is made possible through a sponsorship grant provided by the Pennsylvania Hardwood Development Council. If you are thinking about getting your PA SFI Training Card, the time to do it is now. Payment must be made before the training date and individuals that register but fail to attend the training will not be refunded.

As a reminder, you can now register for PA SFI training courses online at <http://sfiopa.org/course-registration.php>. We have also developed a new online training request form that allows you to request specific PA SFI trainings be held your area. It can be accessed at <http://www.sfiopa.org/request-training/>. There are lots of other new features on our website. Check them out on the next page.

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.sfioprogram.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 Co.

Forest Investment Associates

Georgia-Pacific

Glatfelter Pulp Wood Company

Hancock Forest Management

Molpus Timberlands Management

NewPage Corporation

Weaber, Inc.

Weyerhaeuser

Winter 2014, Issue #33

- 2 -

The New PA SFI Website Has Everything You Need



① The Pennsylvania SFI program website has several new features designed to help carry out program services and outreach. Log on and check it out: www.sfiopa.org

② Pennsylvania's Professional Timber Harvesters will find a number of useful features under the **LOGGERS** menu. A new **Logger Resources** section provides a tremendous collection of helpful web pages, images, videos, publications, and other digital media about conducting timber harvesting operations throughout Pennsylvania - all conveniently hosted in one place. These resources focus on safety, logging regulations, and other important resource and industry information. The **Training Requirements** section details the PA SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training Program and how to obtain and maintain a PA SFI training card. Training participants can now review, register, and pay for PA SFI training under the new **PA SFI Training Courses** section. Participants can also **Request Training** in their area using the new online training request form. Information on non-PA SFI training courses that have been pre-approved for PA SFI CE credit can be found under the **Additional Training Opportunities** section. Individuals wishing to check the status of their PA SFI training can review the **Cardholder Lists**.

③ Promoting sustainable forest management practices to Pennsylvania's private forest landowners is an important goal of the PA SFI program.

The **FOREST LANDOWNERS** section contains tools, resources, and information that can help empower landowners to make sound management decisions. This online landowner resource elaborates on the topics outlined in our new landowner outreach brochure.

④ Current and past editions of the PA SFI program's newsletter can be found on the **NEWSLETTER** page.

⑤ Forest products companies operating in Pennsylvania that participate in the SFI program are highlighted in the **SFI PARTICIPANTS** section. These companies contractually agree to abide by the SFI Forestry Standard and have been certified by an accredited SFI certification body to be in conformance with the SFI Forestry Standard.

⑥ The **LINKS** section contains a directory of helpful links to program and organization websites related to forest certification, forest industry, government & academia, and additional resources.

⑦ **PROGRAM PARTNERS** are companies and organizations that do not participate in the SFI certification program, but who help to promote the wise use of Pennsylvania's forest resources by pledging an annual contribution to the PA SFI program based on their mill production.

⑧ **PROGRAM SUPPORTERS** are entities that do not participate in the SFI certification program, but support the efforts of the PA SFI program by pledging a meaningful contribution.

⑨ The **FORMS** page contains a number of helpful documents and forms including the *non-PA SFI course credit* form for registering outside courses for PA SFI CE credit, the Timber Harvesting Assessment form for administering and evaluating silviculture operations, and the PA SFI inconsistent practices form for reporting practices that appear inconsistent with the SFI standard. The page also has the most commonly utilized permits and forms related to Pennsylvania's E&S regulations.

⑩ The **PUBLICATIONS** page contains helpful resources for foresters, timber harvesters, forest products companies and landowners including the PA SFI directory, a copy of the most current SFI Forestry Standard, the Pennsylvania Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report, OSHA Logging Regulations, and a number of guides on sustainable forest management.

⑪ **CONTACT** the PA SFI program with requests, questions, or comments via email.

⑫ Find out the latest **PA SFI NEWS** with this new link to our news blog.

⑬ The PA SFI program is a grassroots effort directed by the Pennsylvania **SFI IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE**, a diverse group of dedicated volunteers committed to improving the management of Pennsylvania's forests for the benefit of current and future generations.

PA SFI® SIC Program Partners

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

Blue Ox Timber Resources
Brojack Lumber Co.
Deer Park Lumber, Inc.
Dwight Lewis Lumber Company, Inc.
Frey Pallet Company
Heacock Lumber Company
Hoffman Brothers Lumber Inc.
JM Wood Products, LLC
Jeld-Wen, Inc.
Kern Brothers Lumber Company, Inc.
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, Inc.
Patterson Lumber Company, Inc.
Pine Creek Lumber
RAM Forest Products, Inc.
Renno Brothers Lumber
Salem Hardwood, Inc.
Trumco Forest Products

PA SFI® SIC Program Supporters

Program “Supporters” help to promote sustainable forestry practices and pledge meaningful contributions to the PA SFI program.

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

New Transportation Law Helps Forest Product Haulers

By Paul Lyskava, Exec. Director of PFFPA

The comprehensive transportation package signed into law by Governor Corbett last November will provide welcome relief to the forest products industry. The law will eventually provide an additional \$2.3 billion annually for transportation infrastructure improvements across the state. But the law also includes expanded relief for haulers of forest products and other haulers impacted by the recent weight posting on rural state routes.

Provisions in the new law include:

- Expansion of PennDOT’s existing Letters of Local Determination (LoLD) program, making these Letter available to ‘at-risk industries’, such as forest products, for any posted state routes (Previously only available on posted state routes that were under bond by a Marcellus drilling operation). These LoLD are free and will allow use of a posted route without requirement of a bond or excess maintenance. The new law extends the effective date of the Letter of LoLD Program until 12/31/2018.
- Allow for creation of a minimum use permit for use by posting authorities for hauling on a route at 700 loads per year or less, expressed as a loads-per-day, loads-per-week or loads-per-month number. This minimum use permit will not require bond or excess maintenance agreement.
- Allow for creation of de minimus use permits for use by posting authorities for hauling that is judged to not have an impact on the posted road, but will likely be for even fewer trips than the minimum use permit. This permit will also not require bond or excess maintenance agreement.
- PennDOT will have the discretion to limit access to these letters and permits based on structural capacity of roads. PennDOT may also limit the use of these Letters and permits during spring thaw.

PennDOT is expected to announce the details and availability of these Letters and permits by late February, although it is anticipated they will be available on posted state routes after this year’s spring thaw. Local governments will have the option to provide minimum use and de minimus use permits, but this option won’t be available until regulations have been promulgated by PennDOT.

The new law clarifies that exemptions for local delivery or pickup may not include traffic going to or coming from a site at which minerals, natural gas or natural resources are developed, harvested or extracted, even if these activities are occurring at a residence, a commercial site or on farmland. However, delivery or pickup of logs or other forest products to or from permanent processing mills located on or reachable only through posted highways shall continue to be considered local delivery or pickup.

The law allows PennDOT to require multiple vehicles traveling to or from a single destination to operate under a single permit.

The new funding in the law will help the state to address and reverse the deterioration of nearly 10,000 miles of state roadway in ‘poor’ condition and 4,400 structurally-deficient state bridges. This includes an additional \$1.3 billion annually for state roads and bridges; \$237 million more annually for local roads and bridges; \$12 million more annually for county and forestry roads; and \$35 million annually for the dirt and gravel road program.

PennDOT states that recent posting of weight restrictions on state bridges will be lifted as the rehabilitation of these bridges are programmed into the PennDOT construction schedule, which normally occurs about two years prior to the start of construction. PennDOT estimates that it will be able to rehabilitate about 500 structurally deficient bridges within three years, as opposed to the ten years it would have taken without the additional funding.

PFFPA worked with its legislative allies and PennDOT to get the road bonding relief provisions in the new transportation law.



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

SFI Inc. Seeks Comments on Draft 2015-2019 Standard

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative® is seeking comments on its draft SFI 2015-2019 Standard, during the Standard development process's second 60-day comment period, set to conclude March 6, 2014.

The draft Standard includes new performance measures to conserve biodiversity in fiber sourcing; to limit conversion from one type of forest to another; and to expand the definition of "controversial sources" excluded in SFI-labeled products. The SFI 2015-2019 Standard also outlines the basic requirements for SIC administered logger training programs.

In addition to reviewing the draft and submitting comments at www.sfiprogram.org/comment-on-standard/, interested parties may participate in any of nine public workshops scheduled to be held across the U.S. and Canada.

2013 PA SFI® In Review

2013 Training Results

Individuals that completed core training and received PA SFI Training Cards	84
Individuals that attended one or more trainings	579
Training units recorded (total # of course attendees)	753
Training programs conducted	52
Individuals that hold current PA SFI Training Cards (12/11/12)	711

- Zero inconsistent practices reported (4th year in a row).
- Administered the program within the approved 2013 operating budget.
- Made a number of upgrades to the PA SFI program website and updated our outreach materials.
- Encouraged PA Game Commission to recommend that their timber harvesters be PA SFI trained.



Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee

Professional Timber Harvester Training Program

2014 Spring Training Schedule

SAVE TIME, 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
03/18/14 Tues	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Waterville	\$ 90.00 ✦	03/11/2014
03/19/14 Wed	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Waterville	\$ 85.00	03/12/2014
03/25/14 Tues	9:00 a.m.	Basic First Aid and Adult CPR (4 hours)	Johnsonburg	\$ 65.00	03/18/2014
03/31/14 Mon	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Smethport	\$ 90.00 ✦	03/24/2014
04/02/14 Wed	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Smethport	\$ 85.00	03/26/2014
04/08/14 Tues	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Penfield	\$ 90.00 ✦	04/01/2014
04/09/14 Wed	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Penfield	\$ 85.00	04/02/2014
04/21/14 Mon	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Clintonville	\$ 90.00 ✦	04/14/2014
04/22/14 Tues	9:00 a.m.	Basic First Aid and Adult CPR (4 hours)	Johnsonburg	\$ 65.00	04/15/2014
04/22/14 Tues	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Franklin	\$ 90.00 ✦	04/15/2014
04/23/14 Wed	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Mercer	\$ 85.00	04/16/2014
05/06/14 Tues	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Honesdale	\$ 90.00 ✦	04/29/2014
05/07/14 Wed	8:00 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Honesdale	\$ 85.00	04/30/2014
05/12/14 Mon	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 1 (8 hours)	Alexandria	\$ 90.00 ✦	05/05/2014
05/14/14 Wed	7:30 a.m.	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Huntingdon	\$ 85.00	05/07/2014

✦ **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.**

✦ 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.

- *Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials* (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 class for CE Credit (see Core training schedule above).

Course Date	Time	Course Name (Course Descriptions on Registration form)	Location	Cost ✦	Register By
03/25/14 Tues	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 2 (8 hours)	Wellsboro	\$ 90.00	03/18/2014
03/26/14 Wed	9:00 a.m.	Business Management for Timber Harvesters (8 hours)	Bloomsburg	\$ 75.00	03/19/2014
04/01/14 Tues	8:00 a.m.	Bats and Timber Management (4 hours)	Penfield	\$ 50.00	03/25/2014
04/01/14 Tues	12:30 p.m.	Pennsylvania Timber Rattlesnakes (4 hours)	Penfield	\$ 50.00	03/25/2014
04/01/14 Tues	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 2 (8 hours)	Smethport	\$ 90.00	03/25/2014
04/15/14 Tues	8:00 a.m.	Bats and Timber Management (4 hours)	Towanda	\$ 50.00	04/08/2014
04/15/14 Tues	12:30 p.m.	Pennsylvania Timber Rattlesnakes (4 hours)	Towanda	\$ 50.00	04/08/2014
04/16/14 Wed	9:00 a.m.	Business Management for Timber Harvesters (8 hours)	Harrisburg	\$ 75.00	04/09/2014
04/29/14 Tues	8:00 a.m.	Pennsylvania Wildlife (4 hours)	Laughlintown	\$ 75.00	04/22/2014
05/01/14 Thurs	8:00 a.m.	Pennsylvania Wildlife (4 hours)	Waterville	\$ 75.00	04/24/2014
05/05/14 Mon	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 2 (8 hours)	Swiftwater	\$ 90.00	04/28/2014
05/06/14 Tues	8:00 a.m.	Pennsylvania Wildlife (4 hours)	Franklin	\$ 75.00	04/29/2014
05/13/14 Tues	7:30 a.m.	Game of Logging – Level 2 (8 hours)	Alexandria	\$ 90.00	05/06/2014

✦ 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:

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 education credit, provided the subject of the course is relevant to the SFI 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 check for \$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://sfiopa.blogspot.com>**

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®
Implementation Committee

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Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee

Professional Timber Harvester Training program

2014 Spring Course Registration Form

SAVE TIME, REGISTER ONLINE! www.sfiopfpa.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.sfiopfpa.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" Mail to: 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@sfiopfpa.org Web: www.sfiopfpa.org	Total Amount Enclosed:	

2014 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 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 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.

- **Business Management for Timber Harvesters (8 hours)** - Profitability of timber harvesting businesses is key to implementing sustainable management practices. 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. Exercises include some skills needed to build a business plan, and complete a balance sheet, an enterprise budget, and a production plan.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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.
- **Pennsylvania Timber Rattlesnakes (4 hours)** - Chances are if you have spent any time in Penns 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.

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