



**SUSTAINABLE
FORESTRY
INITIATIVE
PENNSYLVANIA**

SFI-01141

Winter 2023 (Issue # 51)

Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee (SIC) Members

Garin Peck, Chair, Metzler Forest Products
Kyle Troutman, Vice-Chair, Weaber Inc.*
Chuck Coup, Program Manager, Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee

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
Matt Keefer, PA Bureau of Forestry*
Ben Livelsberger, PA Bureau of Forestry*
Paul Lupo, PA Game Commission
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Nancy McCloskey, Hancock Forest Mgmt*
Wes Miller, A.M. Logging
Gordy Mouw, Sus Forestry Initiative, Inc.
Allyson Muth, James C. Finley Center for Private Forests
Mark Ott, Forest Landowner, PFA
Ron Rohall, PA Association of Cons. Districts
Bryan Rose, Domtar*
Sean Ross, The Lyme Timber Company*
Aaron Rowles, Aaron Rowles Logging
Amy Shields, Allegheny HW Utilization Group
Todd Sparks, Nuveen Natural Capital*
Roger Stoll, Weyerhaeuser Co.*
Jason Wenrich, FORECON, Inc. (Representing Forest Investment Associates*)
Travis Whatley, Georgia-Pacific, LLC*
Barrett Wiggins, Deer Park Lumber Co.

* Denotes certified SFI®-Certified Organization

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Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee (SIC)

NEWS

Program Update

SIC Leadership Update

The Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee (SIC) is comprised of many knowledgeable and dedicated volunteers who, in addition to their regular day-to-day duties make the commitment to show up to meetings, support and guide the program, and contribute their valuable input.

Leadership of the SIC is provided by our Chair and Vice-Chair and December 31st marked the end of Jason Wenrich's two-year term as chair of the organization. Jason is FORECON's Director of Business Development / Chief Forester and is based out of their State College office. Under his leadership the SIC navigated the unprecedented challenges posed by the global pandemic and expanded the availability of logger training through online offerings. Jason was presented with an engraved clock on behalf of the SIC in appreciation of his service. He will continue his involvement with the program as a member of the SIC.

Garin Peck assumed the Chair position at the beginning of the year and will serve for 2023-2024. Garin is the Clearing and Environmental Project Manager at Metzler Forest Products. Kyle Troutman, Forester and SFI Coordinator at Weaber, Inc., was elected as Vice-Chair.



SIC Program Manager, Chuck Coup (left) and former SIC Chair, Jason Wenrich (right).



Current SIC Chair, Garin Peck (left) and Vice Chair, Kyle Troutman (right).

Is the Wood-Wide Web Over Hyphae-d?

Dr. Suzanne Simard is largely credited with coining the term "wood-wide web" to describe underground mycorrhizal networks connecting forest trees that are said to exchange messages and share resources in nurturing cooperation. Concepts presented in her popular book *"Finding the Mother Tree: Discovering the Wisdom of the Forest"* and other similar writings have challenged many preconceptions of how forests and plants interact. Books, movies, and news articles have helped popularize the concept of altruistic "mother trees" and a forest-wide information superhighway.

However, concerns are being raised that some of these claims are disconnected from evidence, and that a bias towards citing unsupported positive effects of common mycorrhizal networks (CMNs) has developed in the scientific literature.

In a peer-reviewed article published on February 13, 2023 in the journal *Nature Ecology & Evolution*, three biologists from the University of Alberta, University of British Columbia, and the University of Mississippi caution that these ideas may be ahead of the science. In their perspective piece, *"Positive citation bias and overinterpreted results lead to misinformation on common mycorrhizal networks in forests,"* they note that while CMNs exist, claims that they are widespread and that resources are transferred through them to increase seedling performance are insufficiently supported. They also contend that claims of mature trees preferentially sending resources or "warning signals" through CMNs has no peer-reviewed, published evidence. They caution that knowledge on CMN is presently too sparse and unsettled to inform forest policy and management decisions.

Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) Program

SFI (www.sfiprogram.org), is a solutions-oriented sustainability organization that collaborates on forest-based conservation and community initiatives that demonstrate and enhance our shared quality of life while providing supply chain assurances through standards, data, and authentic stories.

At the heart of the SFI Program are SFI Implementation Committees (SICs). The Pennsylvania SIC is one of 34 spread across North America that responds to local 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

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
FD Timber, LLC
Forest Investment Associates
Georgia-Pacific, LLC
Jamestown, LP
The Lyme Timber Company, LP
Manulife Investment Management
Nuveen Natural Capital
Pixelle Specialty Solutions
Weaver, Inc.
Weyerhaeuser Co.

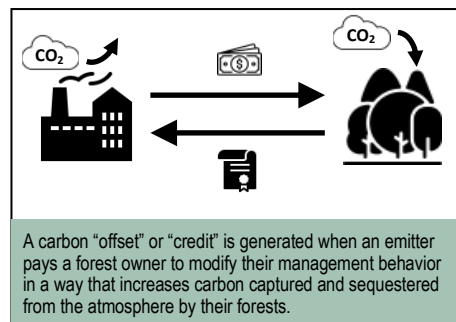
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Voluntary Forest Carbon Markets 101

Voluntary carbon offset markets allow carbon emitters to offset their emissions by purchasing carbon credits created by projects targeted at removing or reducing carbon from the atmosphere. Forestry is a popular style of creating these carbon offset projects for many reasons: trees already exist and are storing massive amounts of carbon—unlike many other carbon capture technologies—they reproduce themselves, support many other lifeforms, and they can pull carbon from the air. Sustainably managed forest can improve the lives of people surrounding them by providing jobs, recreation, and flood control. Finally, forestry is already a well-established science with many trained practitioners (foresters) and several large industries. This means that guidelines for sustainably managed forests are already established, equations about tree growth already exist, and management tools do not need to be invented.

Increasingly, corporations are looking to raise their environmental, social, and corporate governance (ESG) ratings—an objective measure of a company's performance with respect to environmental, social and governance issues. Investing in carbon offsets and setting net zero carbon emission goals is a useful way for carbon emitters to boost their environmental scores, attract new investors, and increase profits. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) like the Nature Conservancy and World Wildlife Foundation also view these reductions as a way to advance their conservation missions.



Forests sequester carbon in many different ways and not all forests are the same. The complexity of the carbon cycle above and below ground makes it very difficult to measure all the carbon that is sequestered in a forest. As a result, most projects are limited to measuring (and selling) carbon stored only in trees, where sequestration rates are better understood. There are two main types of projects used to sell carbon: captured-based or practice-based.

Captured-based projects are the traditional carbon offset, where the volume of carbon stored over a set time frame is measured and sold. This type of project requires an annual or bi-annual survey to see how much carbon has been stored. Measurements can be taken in the field or using remote sensing technology. Carbon accounting techniques are used to show when additional carbon has been stored. The promise of additional carbon storage is what is sold in a market. These surveys can be expensive because they take time to conduct, require skilled practitioners, and must be remeasured annually. Capture-based projects must achieve economies of scale, by being done on a large land base (generally 1,000 acres or more) to help make them profitable. Some capture-based projects allow for landowners to harvest timber, but some do not. Those that do not allow harvesting are called "harvest deferral" projects.

A practice-based project is a relatively new type of project. This type of project pays landowners of all sizes to conduct forest management practices that are known to sequester carbon. This can involve invasive species management to support regeneration of native tree species, or managing forests to grow to a larger size. These programs also allow for some timber harvesting within certain guidelines (e.g., they are sustainable, or forests are not high-graded).

As the idea of carbon programs becomes more accepted and more programs are initiated they need a place to be tried out, and it seems that Pennsylvania is where many of these programs are being piloted. While carbon offsets may be appealing to Pennsylvania's forest landowners as a new stream of revenues, it's important that landowners evaluate projects and decide whether these programs are right for them and if the programs align with their goals for owning their forest. Most projects require long contracts (20-100 years depending on the project) and set some restrictions around how landowners manage their forests, like a yearly maximum harvest or allowing only certain types of harvesting strategies. Forest landowners should explore the resources offered through Penn State's Forest Owner Carbon and Climate Education (FOCCE) program (<https://sites.psu.edu/focce/>) before committing to a carbon program.

Enrolling forestland in a long-term carbon agreement can provide more benefits than

(Continued on page 3)

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.

Blue Ox Timber Resources, Inc.
Cummings Lumber Co., Inc.
Deer Park Lumber, Inc.
Dwight Lewis Lumber Company, Inc.
E.H. Beiler Sawmill, LLC
Gessner Logging & Sawmill, Inc.
Heacock Lumber Company
Hoffman Brothers Lumber, Inc.
JM Wood Products LLC
Kronospan USA - Clarion Boards, LLC
Lapp Lumber Co.
Lee Brothers Lumber
Maple Ridge Forest Products
Mark & Olivia Ott
Mick Brothers Lumber
Ordie Price's Sawmill, Inc.
Patterson Lumber Co., Inc.
Pine Creek Lumber Co.
Renno Brothers Lumber Co.
Salem Hardwood, Inc.
St Marys Lumber Company
Soap Stone Sawmill, LLC
Solts's Sawmill, Inc.
Stoltzfus Forest Products
Superior Lumber, Inc.
Trumco Forest Products
Wheeland Lumber

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.
C&C Smith Lumber, Co., Inc.
Brownlee Lumber, Inc.
Charles Brown Forestry Consulting
Cowan Lumber
Frank Krammes Timber Harvesting, Inc.
Horizon Wood Products, Inc.
K.V. Sawmill
Lewis & Hockenberry, Inc.
Metzler Forest Products, LLC
Noll's Forestry Services
Postlewait Logging Company
P & S Lumber Company
R.J. Hoffman & Sons, Inc.
RAM Forest Products, Inc.
Remmey - The Pallet Company
Rorabaugh Lumber Company
Sylvandale Forestry
WBL Hardwoods
W.J. Cox Associates

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landowner revenue. The long-term commitment of a forest carbon project helps to keep the forest intact, which protects the other vital ecosystem services that forest provide, like water cycling, wildlife habitat, and flood resilience.

Because the fundamental purpose of a carbon offset is to compensate for emissions made elsewhere, all carbon offsets should be considered in terms of broach metrics including *realness*, *additionality*, *leakage*, *permanence*, and *verification* (terms highlighted to the right). Offsets viewed as high quality are generated by implementing carbon mitigation protocols that account for each of these metrics. But if you've been following climate news lately, you'll know that forest-based offsetting is not without critics. Recent high-profile news articles and critiques by watchdog groups have questioned whether forest carbon projects have accomplished their purpose to take additional carbon dioxide out of the air and thereby offset carbon dioxide emissions. As an example, if a carbon capture project protects a forest that was already unlikely to be harvested, there would be no additional carbon stored above the baseline of that forest continuing to grow. This is referred to as the "additionality" problem. The key tenet of a forest carbon offset project is that the forest must store more carbon than it would without the carbon offset project. In another example, if conserving a block of forestland in a carbon project causes forest owners in another location to increase their timber harvesting as a result, there may be little to no net carbon benefit. This describes the "leakage" problem. Forests can also just be inherently risky to use as carbon storage sites. The "permanence" of a forest carbon project could be reversed by a wildfire or mortality from forest pests (insects, bacteria, viruses, and fungi).

The availability of offsets that do not actually reduce carbon in the atmosphere could undermine overall goals of achieving specific carbon emission reductions. These challenges require that forest carbon credit programs continue to evolve and refine their protocols towards higher quality and credibility, and most continue to do so.

(This article was adapted from Penn State Extension's "Carbon Markets 101": <https://extension.psu.edu/carbon-markets-101>)

Black Faces in Green Spaces

A new first-of-its-kind resource, "*Black Faces in Green Spaces: The Journeys of Black Professionals in Green Careers*," has just been released by the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI), Project Learning Tree (PLT), and Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences (MANRRS). The publication highlights 22 Black Americans who share their personal stories about finding their passions and overcoming challenges, and offer advice to the next generation about exploring their own careers in the forest and conservation sector.

The name "*Black Faces in Green Spaces*" pays homage to Dr. Carolyn Finney, who authored the book "*Black Faces, White Spaces: Reimagining the Relationship of African Americans to the Great Outdoors*." The guide is intentional in showcasing a diversity of experiences and careers to show that there is a place for everyone to find a career in the forest and conservation sector.

"With less than 3% Black American representation in forest and conservation careers, these Black hidden figures are iconic to empowering our next generation of forest and conservation professionals," said Dr. Marcus Bernard, National President of MANRRS. "When students see Black professionals in the forest and conservation sector, they see themselves! They also see a career path they never knew existed. This resource highlights the long-standing contribution of Black forest and conservation professionals working in what we now call environmental sustainability."

SELECTED METRICS FOR CARBON OFFSET QUALITY AND CREDIBILITY

Realness refers to whether the offset represents an actual and quantifiable amount of carbon sequestration or reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

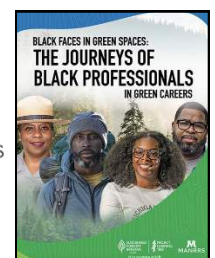
Additionality means that the GHG mitigation would not have occurred without the purchase of the carbon offset. As such, participants do not generally earn offset credits for the continuation of existing practices and activities, but rather for the initiation of new practices and activities.

Leakage refers to an increase in GHG emissions outside of the project area in response to decreases in production within the project area. High-quality carbon offsets are generated with processes that take steps to prevent leakage.

Permanence refers to the duration of stored carbon. Many carbon standards require 100-year permanence. Carbon registries can address the risk of impermanence by holding some offset credits in reserve. All or some of these reserve offset credits can be cancelled if a certain amount of the stored carbon is released before the agreed duration is reached.

Verification is making sure that the offsets were quantified correctly – a process usually conducted by a third party (i.e., not the project developer, participant, or purchaser).

Croft G, Hoover K, Ramseur J, Stubbs M (2021) Agriculture and forestry offsets in carbon markets: background and selected issues. Available from: <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/R/R46956> [Last accessed on 07 Mar 2023]





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Pennsylvania SFI® Implementation Committee
748 Gravel Point Rd
Howard, Pennsylvania 16841

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

Register for classes:

www.sfiopa.org/register

Find SFI Qualified Logging Professionals or review your training records:

www.sfiopa.org/search



[Facebook.com/PennsylvaniaSIC](https://www.facebook.com/PennsylvaniaSIC)

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Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee (SIC)

NEWS

Upcoming Events

Forest Landowners Conference -

Hundreds of landowners, natural resources and forestry professionals, and conservationists interested in forests will gather at the Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center in State College on March 24 & 25 to learn how to better care for their woodlands. During the nearly 100 presentations scheduled Friday and Saturday, attendees can choose from a broad range of topics aimed at growing knowledge, building skills and increasing the enjoyment of their woods. For details and to register: <http://bit.ly/3ZxJoCm>

Kane Area Logger Safety Meeting -

Will be held on April 4 at the Johnsonburg fire hall. This year's theme is "Utilities Notification & Electrical Safety" with presentations from PA 811 and West Penn Power, including West Penn Power's Electrical Safety Trailer Demonstration.

SFI training starts at 1:30pm (\$20). Must attend classes and evening program to receive continuing education credit (1 year). Note: this is more than a 4-hour time commitment. For details and to register: www.sfiopa.org/register

2023 Timber Show -

The 2023 Timber Show will once again be held at Penn State's Ag Progress Days site (2710 W. Pine Grove Rd. PA Furnace, PA 16865) on June 9 & 10. This is an opportunity for forest-product companies to enhance their business and production practices, as well as shop for goods and services from commercial vendors, all in one convenient location. Admission and parking are free. The Pennsylvania SIC will again be offering a 4-hour continuing education training on Friday (June 9) at the event. Training participants wishing to receive credit must preregister (\$20). To register: www.sfiopa.org/register or by using the enclosed form.

Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative®

Implementation Committee

Professional Timber Harvester Training Program

2023 Spring Training Schedule

➤ To register, please visit: 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
04/18/23	Tues 8:00 AM	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Laughlintown (Westmoreland County)	\$ 100.00	04/11/2023
04/19/23	Wed 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)	Laughlintown (Westmoreland County)	\$ 100.00	04/12/2023
04/24/23	Mon 8:00 AM	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Spartansburg (Crawford County)	\$ 100.00	04/17/2023
04/25/23	Tues 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)	Oil City (Venango County)	\$ 100.00	04/18/2023
04/26/23	Wed 8:00 AM	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Reading (Berks County)	\$ 100.00	04/19/2023
04/28/23	Fri 9:00 AM	Basic First Aid and Adult CPR (4 hours)	Johnsonburg (Elk County)	\$ 50.00	04/21/2023
04/28/23	Fri 12:30 PM	Basic First Aid and Adult CPR (4 hours)	Johnsonburg (Elk County)	\$ 50.00	04/21/2023
05/10/23	Wed 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)	Titusville (Crawford County)	\$ 100.00	05/03/2023
05/10/23	Wed 8:00 AM	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Wellsboro (Tioga County)	\$ 100.00	05/03/2023
05/11/23	Thurs 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)	Wellsboro (Tioga County)	\$ 100.00	05/04/2023
05/16/23	Tues 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)	Emporium (Cameron County)	\$ 100.00	05/09/2023
05/23/23	Tues 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)	Aristes (Columbia County)	\$ 100.00	05/16/2023
05/24/23	Wed 8:00 AM	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Huntingdon (Huntingdon County)	\$ 100.00	05/17/2023
05/25/23	Thurs 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)	Blain (Perry County)	\$ 100.00	05/18/2023

♦ 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

Course Date	Time	Course Name (Course Descriptions on Registration form)	Location	Cost +	Register By
04/01/23	Sat 9:30 AM	North Central & Northeast Forestry Education Symposium (4 hrs)	Tunkhannock (Wyoming County)	• COST IS FREE. REGISTER WITH BRADFORD COUNTY CONS. DIST (http://bit.ly/3mmUwmV) ADDITIONAL \$20 FOR PA SFI CE CREDITS.	
04/04/23	Tues 1:30 PM	54 th Annual Loggers & Saw Millers Spring Safety Meeting (4 hrs)	Johnsonburg (Elk County)	\$ 20.00	03/28/2023
04/11/23	Tues 10:00 AM	Intro to Reptiles and Amphibians & their habitats within PA (4 hrs)	Clarion (Clarion County)	\$ 50.00	04/04/2023
04/20/23	Thurs 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 3 (8 hours)	Laughlintown (Westmoreland County)	\$ 100.00	04/13/2023
04/21/23	Fri 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 4 (8 hours)	Laughlintown (Westmoreland County)	\$ 100.00	04/14/2023
05/02/23	Tues 12:00 PM	PA Wildlife Species of Greatest Conservation Need (4 hours)	Reading (Berks County)	\$ 50.00	04/25/2023
05/09/23	Tues 12:00 PM	PA Wildlife Species of Greatest Conservation Need (4 hours)	McConnellsburg (Fulton County)	\$ 50.00	05/02/2023
05/16/23	Tues 8:00 AM	Sustainable Timber Harvesting (8 hours)	La Plume (Lackawanna County)	• COST IS \$15. REGISTER THROUGH PENN STATE (http://bit.ly/3J9aDNR). ADDITIONAL \$20 FOR PA SFI CE CREDITS.	
05/18/23	Thurs 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 2 (8 hours)	Smethport (McKean County)	\$ 100.00	05/11/2023
05/19/23	Fri 8:00 AM	Advanced Logger Rescue (8 hours)	Woodland (Clearfield County)	\$ 100.00	05/12/2023
05/20/23	Sat 8:00 AM	Hydraulics System Safety & Maintenance (8 hours)	Montgomery (Lycoming County)	\$ 100.00	05/13/2023
05/24/23	Wed 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 2 (8 hours)	Aristes (Columbia County)	\$ 100.00	05/17/2023
05/31/23	Wed 8:00 AM	Native Plants of Pennsylvania (4 hours)	Petersburg (Huntingdon County)	\$ 50.00	05/24/2023
06/06/23	Tues 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 2 (8 hours)	Penfield (Clearfield County)	\$ 100.00	05/30/2023
06/07/23	Wed 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 3 (8 hours)	Penfield (Clearfield County)	\$ 100.00	05/31/2023
06/09/23	Fri 1:00 PM	Timber Show CE Update (4 hours)	PA Furnace (Huntingdon County)	\$ 20.00	06/02/2023

♦ 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/page/online-training/>

2023 Spring Course Registration Form

- THIS TRAINING SCHEDULE MAY CHANGE AT ANY TIME WITHOUT ADVANCED NOTIFICATION. For current training offerings please visit: 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 or contact the PA SIC office (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 • Logger-employee • Landowner • Office personnel • Truck driver • Other	Make checks payable to: "Pennsylvania SIC" Mail to: PA SFI Implementation Committee 748 Gravel Point Road Howard, PA 16841		Total Amount Enclosed:	
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.

- **2023 Timber Show CE Update (4 hours)** - Timber show attendees can participate in this CE Update courses being offered at the 2023 Timber Show. Walk-ups will be accepted, but registration is required ahead of time for those who wish to receive PA SFI continuing education credits.
- **54th Annual Loggers and Saw Millers Spring Safety Meeting (4 hours)** - TO RECEIVE CE CREDIT PARTICIPANTS MUST ATTEND BOTH THE SFI UPDATE CLASS AND THE ANNUAL SAFETY MEETING THAT FOLLOWS. THIS WILL BE MORE THAN A 4-HOUR TIME COMMITMENT. Come be a part of the oldest logging safety meeting in the United States. Free dinner and door prizes. This year's training is titled "Utilities Notification & Electrical Safety". The course will be presented by Kirk Kirkpatrick of 811 and will include West Penn Power's demonstration trailer.
- **Advanced Logger Rescue (8 hours)** - Geared to prepare firefighters, EMS personnel, foresters, and loggers in taking action to reduce severity of injury and increase the chance of survival during a logging accident, this program teaches all participants how to handle an "in woods" rescue from the time a person has not arrived home until they are transported to a Level-1 Trauma Center
- **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. This training is conducted in the field.
- **Hydraulic Systems Safety & Maintenance (8 hours)** - This hands-on course will introduce participants to the theory of hydraulic operation, nomenclature and function of associated components, safety practices, general maintenance, and diagnostic troubleshooting of hydraulic systems.
- **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.
- **Native Plants of Pennsylvania (4 hours)** - Native plants have evolved naturally in a region over many years, rather than being introduced from another area. This course provides an introduction to native plants for foresters and logging professionals. It features common native plants in Pennsylvania and surrounding regions and includes in-field instruction.
- **North Central and Northeast Forestry Education Symposium (4 hours)** - This event will include forestry presentations from local professionals on topics such as managing your woodlot for wildlife, forest disease, invasive species, forestry best management practices and more! The morning will include multiple guest speaker presentations and the afternoon will include a guided forestry tour will highlight previously timbered and properly managed forests sites around Vosburg Neck State Park. A light breakfast and catered lunch will be provided.
- **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.
- **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.

Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative®

Implementation Committee

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