



Winter 2024 (Issue # 53)

Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee (SIC) Members

Garin Peck, Chair, Metzler Forest Products
Kyle Troutman, Vice-Chair, Weaver 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*
Ben Livelsberger, PA Bureau of Forestry*
Paul Lupo, PA Game Commission
Mark McCall, Pixelle Specialty Solutions*
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 (non-voting)
Stephanie Phillips-Taggart, KWPA
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*
Dominic Stelzer, Ind. Stave Company*
Roger Stoll, Weyerhaeuser Co.*
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 / www.sfiopa.org

Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee (SIC)

NEWS

SFI and Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value

Protecting forests while also utilizing them sustainably is a complex balancing act, and in Pennsylvania, where forests cover over 58% of the land area, the importance of responsible forest management cannot be overstated.

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative's (SFI) certification standards take a practical and scientific approach to defining what sustainable forestry means. Those practices are extended beyond SFI certified forestlands through the SFI Fiber Sourcing Standard, which requires certificate holders to bolster responsible forestry on non-certified lands through a commitment to educational outreach.

In particular, SFI's 2022 Fiber Sourcing Standards place an increased emphasis on Biodiversity and Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value (FECV). The Standards related to FECVs are designed to identify and protect areas within forests that hold particular ecological significance. By doing so, the Standards help to maintain biodiversity, preserve critical habitats, and safeguard species that are most in need of protection and management interventions to ensure their survival.

Forest landowners, foresters, and loggers play an important role in conserving the biodiversity of our forests. Biodiversity simply refers to the variety of life in a particular place. If we think of all the trees, people, animals, plants, fungi, and even microorganisms like bacteria in our forests as pieces to a complex and intricate puzzle, then we can begin to understand how they all work together to create the larger picture of an interconnected ecosystem working to sustain life on earth. Each species plays a unique role, much like each puzzle piece contributes to the overall image. Some species serve as pollinators, facilitating the reproduction of flowering plants, while others act as predators, helping to control populations of prey species. Still, others are decomposers, breaking down organic matter and recycling nutrients back into the ecosystem.

And yet, we need to think even deeper about this since biodiversity is usually considered at three levels: genetic, species, and ecosystem. At the risk of stretching our puzzle analogy a bit too far here, we could maybe think of species diversity as the individual puzzle pieces. Just as each puzzle piece has its own shape and place in the puzzle, each species occupies a specific niche within its ecosystem, playing a distinct role in the web of life. Genetic diversity, perhaps akin to the unique patterns and colors of individual puzzle pieces, refers to the variation within species at the genetic level. Just as individual puzzle pieces may have intricate patterns and varying hues, genetic diversity encompasses the differences in DNA sequences among individuals within a species. Ecosystem diversity might be represented by larger interlocking sections of the puzzle, each one representing a distinct habitat or ecosystem type. Just as puzzle sections fit together to create a larger picture, ecosystems are interconnected and interdependent, forming a mosaic of habitats across landscapes.

In the same way that removing pieces from a puzzle can disrupt the image and make it incomplete, the loss of a species or diversity can have far-reaching consequences for an ecosystem. When biodiversity is reduced due to habitat fragmentation or destruction, pollution, invasive species, climate change, or other human activities, the intricate balance of relationships among species is disrupted, leading to ecological instability and loss of resilience. Moreover, like a puzzle with missing pieces, ecosystems with reduced biodiversity may struggle to function properly. They may become more vulnerable to invasive species, diseases, and other disturbances, making them less able to adapt to changing environmental conditions.

(Continued on next page)



Sustainable Forestry Initiative®

At the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (www.sfioprogram.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.sfiopfa.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

Jamestown, LP

Manulife Investment Management

Nuveen Natural Capital

Pixelle Specialty Solutions

The Lyme Timber Company, LP

Weaber, Inc.

Weyerhaeuser Co.

(Continued from page 1)

Conversely, when biodiversity is preserved and enhanced, ecosystems become more resilient and capable of sustaining life in the face of challenges. Just as adding pieces to a puzzle can enrich the overall image and make it more vibrant and complete, efforts to conserve and restore biodiversity contribute to the health and vitality of ecosystems, ensuring their continued functioning.

Forests are incredibly diverse ecosystems, home to a myriad of plant and animal species. Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value are those that support puzzle pieces at significant risk of being lost – rare plants, animals, or ecological communities (i.e., groups of species that are commonly found together). These species and communities are classified as imperiled or critically imperiled. SFI's FECV standards ensure that areas that house imperiled, and critically imperiled species and ecological communities are identified and protected within forest management plans and operations.

“Critically imperiled” (G1) or “imperiled” (G2) species or ecological communities are globally rare or, because of certain factors, especially vulnerable to extinction or elimination. Nongovernmental organizations such as NatureServe and Natural Heritage Programs, or the World Conservation Organization (IUCN) designate G1 and G2 species or communities. These status ranks are used to prioritize conservation and protection efforts.

Considering FECVs in forestry practices requires a collaborative effort among landowners, foresters, loggers, and other conservation professionals. Landowners play a crucial role in identifying and designating FECV areas within their properties. Foresters bring their expertise to assess the ecological significance of these areas and develop management plans that prioritize their conservation. Loggers, in turn, implement harvesting techniques that minimize disturbance to FECV areas and adhere to sustainable forestry practices.

The SFI Standards help conserve biodiversity, protecting species and communities, while also enhancing the long-term health and resilience of our forests. These sustainable forestry practices not only ensure the continued viability of Pennsylvania's forest products industry but also safeguard the ecological integrity of our forests for generations to come.

To learn more: www.sfiopfa.org/FECV

Strategies for Conserving Forest Biodiversity

It's important to note that imperiled and critically imperiled species can thrive in managed forests. In fact, active management is necessary for the survival of some species. It's up to landowners, foresters, and loggers to take the necessary steps to identify and conserve these species and communities.

The following strategies can help maintain or perhaps increase biodiversity in forest ecosystems. Consider incorporating these strategies into your forest management activities.

- **Check for impacts:** Utilize the Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program's Environmental Review Tool to check for any potential impacts to local biodiversity prior to conducting forest management activities. <https://conservationexplorer.dcnr.pa.gov/>
- **Protect habitat:** Provide and protect a variety of habitats for plants and animals. Diverse habitat types ensure the potential for a wide range of plants and animals.
- **Reduce fragmentation:** When a large habitat is broken into smaller fragments, certain plant and animal species cannot spread easily. Three species groups affected by habitat fragmentation are:
 - species with large home ranges (e.g., bears and large carnivores)
 - species unable to disperse easily (e.g., many amphibian and reptile species)
 - habitat-interior species (e.g., forest songbirds)Some species easily survive habitat fragmentation. For example, deer and raccoon are generalists and often benefit from fragmentation.
- **Control exotic invasive animals or plants:** Exotic invasive species may outcompete native species and have detrimental effects on the forest ecosystem. Japanese stiltgrass is an example of an exotic invasive species.
- **Reduce pollution:** Pollution has negative effects on forest ecosystem productivity and may make certain species more prone to damage from insects and disease.
- **Use sustainable harvesting practices:** Sustainable harvesting practices protect the environment by conserving soil, controlling stream sedimentation, protecting residual trees from damage, and promoting desired regeneration.

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
Lee Brothers Lumber
Lewis & Hockenberry, Inc.
Maple Ridge Forest Products
Mark & Olivia Ott
Mick Brothers Lumber
Ordie Price's Sawmill, Inc.
Patterson Lumber Co., Inc.
Pine Creek Lumber Co.
RAM Forest Products, Inc.
Renno Brothers Lumber Co.
Salem Hardwood, Inc.
St Marys Lumber Company
Soap Stone Sawmill, LLC
Solts's Sawmill, Inc.
Stoltzfus 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.
Brownlee Lumber, Inc.
C&C Smith Lumber, Co., Inc.
Cessna Brothers Lumber
Charles Brown Forestry Consulting
Cowan Lumber
Eby Sawmill
Emporium Hardwoods
Frank Krammes Timber Harvesting, Inc.
Frey Lumber Company
Horizon Wood Products, Inc.
Metzler Forest Products, LLC
Mt. Airy Lumber Co., LLC
Noll's Forestry Services
Northwood Resources, Inc.
P & S Lumber Company
Pennsylvania Game Commission
Postlewait Logging Company
R.J. Hoffman & Sons, Inc.
Remmey - The Pallet Company
Shade Mountain Forest Products
Springfield Hardwood Products, LLC
Superior Lumber, Inc.
Sylvandale Forestry
Trumbull Forest Products
WBL Hardwoods
W.J. Cox Associates
Wheeland Lumber
WOODBED Corp

The Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program

The Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program (PNHP) is a partnership between the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC), the Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC), and the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy (WPC) in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Each PNHP partner agency is responsible for managing specific taxonomic groups of rare, threatened, and endangered species, as well as species of concern and rare natural features.

The PNHP maintains an integrated data management system of site-specific information related to important ecological resources known as the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI). The online PNDI Environmental Review Tool (ER Tool) allows the public to pre-screen timber harvesting and vegetation management projects for potential impacts to imperiled and critically imperiled species and other rare and significant ecological features in Pennsylvania. Visit: <https://conservationexplorer.dcnr.pa.gov/>

Implementation Committee Outreach and Development Update



As I complete my first year as Director of Outreach and Development for the Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee (PA SIC), I'm excited to continue the great work we've started. We have made great strides in increasing awareness of and support for our program while raising additional funds to build on our success. During my first year, I focused on strengthening our partnerships with key agencies like the Bureau of Forestry and the Game Commission while making personal outreach visits to members of the industry. I'm eager to continue my travels across PA.

The Implementation Committee is mainly funded through annual assessments from companies within the forest products industry. 55% of our annual assessments come from the 12 SFI Certified Companies that operate in Pennsylvania. These entities make a commitment to the SFI Standards and have been third-party certified by independent auditors to be in conformance with the SFI Standards. SFI-certified organizations adhere to sustainable forest management and fiber sourcing practices that encompass a variety of responsibilities including maintaining forest productivity and health and protecting water quality, biological diversity, and special sites.

PA SIC Partners make up 30% of our annual assessments, and currently total 25 companies. SIC Partners help to promote sustainable forestry practices throughout Pennsylvania by voluntarily pledging a set contribution annually to the Pennsylvania SIC based on mill production from PA forest resources. While these entities and their products or services are not certified to the SFI Standard, they help promote the wise use of Pennsylvania's forest resources and protect their economic, social, and ecological values for today and generations to come.

PA SIC Supporters make up 15% of our annual assessments, and currently there are 30. SIC Supporters help to promote sustainable forestry practices by voluntarily pledging meaningful contributions to the Pennsylvania SIC. While these entities and their products or services are not certified to the SFI Standard, they help promote the wise use of Pennsylvania's forest resources and protect their economic, social, and ecological values for today and generations to come.

Each year in January we send out our annual assessment survey. This survey not only goes to our current contributors, but to over 300 companies within the forest products industry. You can see that I have a lot of work ahead of me, considering that out of the 300 plus companies, currently we have 68 companies supporting us financially.

It has and will be my focus to continue relationships with our current 68 supporters all the while building new relationships with the others. This is where the outreach comes into play. We have recently developed a monthly electronic newsletter titled "Forestry 411". If you would like to receive our monthly newsletter, email me at doty@sfiopa.org, and I'll get you on the list. We are also in the process of updating our outreach materials to reflect current trends within the industry.

A large part of my outreach efforts focuses on personal visits to mills, and other businesses within the forest products industry. It is during these visits that I hope to showcase the work of the implementation committee and the value you can expect if you decide to become a financial supporter. If you would like to schedule a visit with me, please email me at doty@sfiopa.org, or give me a call at 814-512-8678.

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

Follow Us:



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



[Instagram.com/sfiscifpa/](https://www.instagram.com/sfiscifpa/)

Winter 2024, Issue #53

- 4 -

Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee (SIC)

NEWS

Upcoming Events

March 7—DCNR Timber Buyer's Meeting. Reedsville, PA. 8am-noon. Free to attend and pre-registration is not required. Approved for 4 hours of SFI CE credit.
More information: <https://bit.ly/49vrubj>

April 9—55th Annual Loggers and Saw Millers Spring Safety Meeting. Johnsonburg, PA. 1:30pm to 8:15pm. This year's theme is fire. Approved for 4 hours of SFI CE credit (\$20 fee). Dinner included.

More information: <https://bit.ly/3v2y5YG>
Register: www.sfiopa.org/register

August 7—Commercial Vehicle Safety Symposium. Presented by PA State Police, in cooperation with the PA DOT, PA Motor Truck Association, and the PA Motor Carrier Safety Advisory Committee. State College, PA. 8:00am to 4:00pm. Registration is free but limited to first 200 responses received.

More information: <https://bit.ly/49UmRoc>
Register: www.tinyurl.com/2024CVSS

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. Applicants will need to provide their social security number and date of birth, but personal data is not retained and only used for State reporting. Applicants will also need to include their NAICS industry code. For logging, this number is: 113310.

For more information and to apply for reimbursement: <https://bit.ly/3UYRsgZ>

Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative®

Implementation Committee

Professional Timber Harvester Training Program

2024 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
03/27/24 Wed	8:00 AM	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Franklin (Venango County)	\$ 100.00	03/20/2024
03/29/24 Fri	9:00 AM	First Aid/CPR (4 hours)	Johnsonburg (Elk County)	\$ 100.00	03/22/2024
04/03/24 Wed	8:00 AM	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Wellsboro (Tioga County)	\$ 100.00	03/27/2024
04/15/24 Mon	7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)	Laughlintown (Westmoreland County)	\$ 100.00	04/08/2024
04/18/24 Thurs	7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)	Aristes (Columbia County)	\$ 100.00	04/11/2024
04/19/24 Fri	8:00 AM	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Penfield (Clearfield County)	\$ 100.00	04/12/2024
04/22/24 Mon	8:00 AM	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Laughlintown (Westmoreland County)	\$ 100.00	04/15/2024
04/23/24 Tues	7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)	Penfield (Clearfield County)	\$ 100.00	04/16/2024
04/26/24 Fri	9:00 AM	First Aid/CPR (4 hours)	Corry (Erie County)	\$ 100.00	04/19/2024
05/01/24 Wed	8:00 AM	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Elverson (Chester County)	\$ 100.00	04/24/2024
05/02/24 Thurs	7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)	Honey Brook (Chester County)	\$ 100.00	04/25/2024
05/14/24 Tues	7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)	Wellsboro (Tioga County)	\$ 100.00	05/07/2024
05/22/24 Wed	8:00 AM	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Fayetteville (Franklin County)	\$ 100.00	05/15/2024
05/23/24 Thurs	7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)	Fayetteville (Franklin County)	\$ 100.00	05/16/2024
06/04/24 Tues	7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)	Sigel (Jefferson County)	\$ 100.00	05/28/2024

- 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
03/27/24 Wed	10:00 AM	Intro to Reptiles and Amphibians & their habitats within PA (4 hrs)	Marienville (Forest County)	\$ 50.00	03/20/2024
04/09/24 Tues	1:30 PM	55th Annual Loggers & Saw Millers Spring Safety Meeting (4 hrs*)	Johnsonburg (Elk County)	\$ 20.00	04/02/2024
04/12/24 Fri	12:00 PM	PA Species of Greatest Conservation Need (4 hours)	Honesdale (Wayne County)	\$ 50.00	04/05/2024
04/16/24 Tues	12:00 PM	Outdoor Survival Skills for Timber Harvesters (4 hours)	Howard (Centre County)	\$ 50.00	04/09/2024
04/17/24 Wed	7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Storm Damage (8 hours)	Liberty (Tioga County)	\$ 100.00	04/10/2024
04/24/24 Wed	7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 2 (8 hours)	Penfield (Clearfield County)	\$ 100.00	04/17/2024
05/03/24 Fri	7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 2 (8 hours)	Honey Brook (Chester County)	\$ 100.00	04/26/2024
05/06/24 Mon	12:00 PM	PA Species of Greatest Conservation Need (4 hours)	Harrisburg (Dauphin County)	\$ 50.00	04/29/2024
05/08/24 Wed	9:00 AM	Outdoor Survival Skills for Timber Harvesters (4 hours)	Huntingdon (Huntingdon County)	\$ 50.00	05/01/2024
05/15/24 Wed	7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 2 (8 hours)	Wellsboro (Tioga County)	\$ 100.00	05/08/2024
05/21/24 Tues	10:30 AM	Vegetation Management (4 hours)	Emporium (Cameron County)	\$ 50.00	05/14/2024
05/23/24 Thurs	8:00 AM	Sustainable Timber Harvesting (8 hours)	PA Furnace (Centre County)	• COST IS \$15 REGISTRATION WITH PENN STATE. ADDITIONAL \$20 FOR PA SFI CE CREDITS.	
05/25/24 Sat	8:00 AM	Hydraulic System Safety & Maint (8 hours)	Montgomery (Lycoming County)	\$ 100.00	05/18/2024
05/28/24 Tues	7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 3 (8 hours)	Clermont (McKean County)	\$ 100.00	05/21/2024
05/29/24 Wed	7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 4 (8 hours)	Clermont (McKean County)	\$ 100.00	05/22/2024
05/31/24 Fri	8:00 AM	The Relationship Between Lumber, Tree, and Log Grades (8 hours)	Tunkhannock (Wyoming County)	\$ 100.00	05/24/2024
06/05/24 Wed	7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 2 (8 hours)	Sigel (Jefferson County)	\$ 100.00	05/29/2024

- 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.
- * To receive continuing education credit, participants must attend both the SFI Update class (1:30pm – 4:30pm) and the annual safety meeting that follows (5:30pm to approx. 8:15pm). This represents more than a 4-hour time commitment.

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/>

2024 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.

- **55th 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 focused on fire.
- **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.
- **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 herptile populations.
- **Outdoor Survival Skills for Timber Harvesters (4 hours)** - This course covers various aspects of dealing with outdoor survival situations. A major emphasis is placed on being prepared for unexpected emergencies and preventing hypothermia. Items to have with you, compass and map skills, and shelter/fire building techniques are among the many aspects discussed in detail. Hands on experience is provided to all participants in compass/map and fire building exercises.
- **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.
- **Vegetation Management (4 hours)** - This course will address the control of invasive vegetation. It will cover species identification and the application and timing of proper control treatments.

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 / www.sfiopa.org

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative®, SFI®, and the SFI® Implementation Committee logo are registered trademarks and service marks of SFI Inc.