



**SUSTAINABLE
FORESTRY
INITIATIVE
PENNSYLVANIA**

SFI-01141

Summer 2026 (Issue # 58)

Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee, Inc. Board Members

Jason Wenrich, Chair, FORECON, Inc.
(Representing FIA*, FD Timber*, Jamestown*)
Bryan Rose, Vice-Chair, Domtar*
Chuck Coup, Executive Director
Mark Ott, Administrative Coordinator

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Andrus, Three Rivers Forest Mgmt.
(Representing The Lyme Timber Company*)
Dennis Austin, Georgia-Pacific, LLC*
Jeff Barrett, Manulife Investment Mgmt.*
Josh Dean, American Forest Mgmt. Inc.*
Jonathan Geyer, PA Hardwood Dev. Council
Matt Keefer, PA Bureau of Forestry*
Dave Kennell, Speyside Bourbon Cooperage*
Mark McCall, Pixelle Specialty Solutions*
Roger Stoll, Weyerhaeuser Co.*
Fred Strathmeyer, PA Forest Products Assoc.

* Denotes certified SFI®-Certified Organization

ADVISORY BOARD

Daniel Anna, Jr., Anna's Consulting Forestry
Shelby Chorba, Northern Tier HW Association
Noah Keister, Metzler Forest Products, LLC
Ben Livelsberger, PA Bureau of Forestry*
Wes Miller, A.M. Logging
Gordy Mouw, Sus. Forestry Initiative, Inc.
Allyson Muth, James C. Finley Center for Private
Forests at Penn State
Mark Ott, Forest Landowner, PFA (non-voting)
Stephanie Phillips-Taggart, KWPA
Ron Rohall, PA Association of Cons. Districts
Aaron Rowles, Aaron Rowles Logging
Amy Shields, Allegheny HW Utilization Group
Kyle Troutman, Forester
Aaron Tyson, Pennsylvania Game Commission
Barrett Wiggins, Deer Park Lumber Co.

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

Pennsylvania SFI® Implementation Committee Inc.

211 Barrington Lane
Bellefonte, PA 16823
(814) 355-1010 or
(888) 734-9366 (toll free)
Fax: (814) 367-3101

pasfi@sfiopa.org / www.sfiopa.org

Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee (SIC)

NEWS

The People Behind the Forest: Family Ownership Trends and Sustainable Forestry

Forests are shaped not only by things like soils, disturbances, pests, weather, and markets, but by the people who own and make decisions about the land. Experts estimate that there are a staggering 11 million family forest ownerships (families, individuals, trusts, estates, and family partnerships with forest holdings of 1 acre or more) that control an estimated 259 million acres (37%) of U.S. forestland outside Interior Alaska.



The USDA Forest Service's National Woodland Owner Survey (NWOS) provides one of the clearest pictures available of who owns America's private forests, why they own them, and how they manage them. Conducted periodically since 1993 as part of the Forest Service's Forest Inventory and Analysis program, the survey gathers information from forest landowners through a scientifically designed, area-based sample.

Preliminary results of the 2023 NWOS were published over the summer. Although the survey is national in scope and individual trends found in the results would not apply exactly the same way in every state, we think it still deserves some attention in Pennsylvania where ~12 million acres (70%) of our forestlands is privately held by roughly 750,000 landowners. The future of Penn's Woods will be determined in large part by the goals, concerns, and decisions of these private owners.

There are many lessons, trends, and questions that can be taken from this survey, but we have identified several that may be particularly useful for Pennsylvania's forestry and forest-products community.

Start with landowner's objectives

The survey confirms what many forestry professionals have long observed; family forest ownership is rarely about only one thing. Nationally, 81% of family forest owners said beauty or scenery was an important reason for owning woodland; 80% cited wildlife habitat; 73% cited nature protection; and 69% cited family legacy. By comparison, only 33% identified timber products as an important ownership objective.

This does not make timber harvesting less important. It does suggest, however, that discussions about forest management must begin with the reasons people own their land. A properly planned harvest can support many of the goals owners value most. It can improve forest health, encourage desirable regeneration, enhance wildlife habitat and hunting, improve access, address safety concerns, and generate income that helps a family retain its woodland. When harvests are discussed only as a timber sale, the connection to these broader objectives can be missed.

Use succession planning as a stewardship opportunity

One of the survey's most notable trends is the aging of family forest ownership decision-makers. In 2023, the median age of the primary decision-maker was 68, and the share of ownerships led by someone age 68 or older increased from 32% in 2013 to 46% in 2023. At the same time, keeping land intact for future generations remained among the most common concerns reported by family forest owners.

For Pennsylvania, this reinforces the value of beginning stewardship conversations well before a property is transferred, divided, or offered for sale. Discussions about

(Continued on next page)

Sustainable Forestry Initiative®

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

At the heart of the SFI Program are SFI Implementation Committees (SICs). The Pennsylvania SIC is part of a network of SICs 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 is an independent 501c3 nonprofit organization whose 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).

American Forest Management, Inc.
Domtar Corporation
FD Timber, LLC
Forest Investment Associates
Georgia-Pacific, LLC
Jamestown, LP
Manulife Investment Management
PA DCNR, Bureau of Forestry
Pixelle Specialty Solutions
The Lyme Timber Company, LP
Speyside Bourbon Cooperage, Inc.
Weyerhaeuser Co.

succession can also help families address boundaries, access, existing forest conditions, tax considerations, written plans, and the next generation's expectations for the property. A forest-management plan may not answer every estate-planning question, but it can give a family a practical record of the property's resources, management history, and long-term opportunities to work from.

Meet owners through forest health

The survey found that many family forest owners are actively working on their properties, even when they are not engaging in traditional forestry management tools or assistance. In the five years before the 2023 survey, 24% of landowners had undertaken invasive-plant management and 24% had worked to improve wildlife habitat. A larger percentage said that they planned to engage in invasive species control (27%) and wildlife habitat improvement (30%) in the future.

Forest health topics provide natural entry points for meaningful conversations about forest stewardship. An owner who is worried about invasive plants may also need help thinking about regeneration, canopy openings, deer pressure, roads and trails, or the future species composition of a stand. A landowner interested in wildlife habitat may benefit from understanding the role of young forest conditions, mast-producing trees, water protection, forests with exceptional conservation value, and active management. PA SFI's online landowner outreach resources and its partnerships with foresters, agencies, conservation districts, and educational organizations can help connect owners with information that is relevant to the goals they already have for their woods.

Present harvesting as a management tool

The percentage of family forest ownerships that had harvested trees for sale during the preceding five years declined from 18% in 2013 to 14% in 2023. The share of family forest owners that indicated they had harvesting trees for personal use, such as firewood, also declined from 41% to 35%. The share of owners identifying timber production as an important reason for ownership declined slightly as well, from 23% to 21%.

These trends could have potential implications for Pennsylvania's forest-products industry and for the future availability of sustainably managed timber. They also reinforce the importance of explaining why a harvest may be appropriate for a particular forest. Timber harvesting is not the correct answer for every property at every time, but it is an important management tool when it is guided by clear objectives and sound forestry. A carefully designed harvest can remove poor-quality or damaged trees, create conditions for regeneration, improve the health and quality of the remaining stand, support habitat goals, and provide revenue that helps owners pay taxes or invest in future management.

Connect owners with trained professionals

Only 19% of family forest ownerships with at least 10 acres had received forest-management advice, and just 12% reported having a written forest-management plan (down from 14% in 2013). These figures indicate that many owners may be making important decisions without regular access to professional forestry assistance.

When a harvest is appropriate, a forester can help a landowner clarify goals, prepare a prescription, market timber competitively, oversee contract provisions, and evaluate results. A current Pennsylvania SFI Qualified Logging Professional (QLP) can bring training in logging safety, environmental protection, sustainable harvesting practices, and applicable regulations to the job site. Landowners considering a timber sale should ask prospective operators whether they are current PA SFI QLPs and should strongly consider working with a professional forester from the beginning of the process.

The survey demonstrates that forest owners are diverse, their objectives are personal, and assistance is most effective when it helps them understand their choices.

Pennsylvania's private forestlands provide wildlife habitat, clean water, recreation, scenic beauty, raw material for the forest-products industry, and a living legacy for countless families. By listening to what owners value and connecting them with the tools, training, and professional assistance that fit their needs, Pennsylvania can help ensure that Penn's Woods remain productive, healthy, and well-managed for the generations to come.

PA SFI® Implementation Committee Partners

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

A & L Wood, Inc.
Beiler Sawmill, LLC
C&C Smith Lumber Co., Inc.
Cummings Lumber Co., Inc.
Deer Park Lumber, Inc.
Dwight Lewis Lumber Company, Inc.
Gessner Logging & Sawmill, Inc.
Heacock Lumber Company
JM Wood Products LLC
Kronospan USA - Clarion Boards, LLC
Lee Brothers Lumber
M & D Staves
Mark & Olivia Ott
Ordie Price's Sawmill, Inc.
Pine Creek Lumber Co.
Renno Brothers Lumber Co.
St Marys Lumber Company
Solts's Sawmill, Inc.
Trumbull Forest Products

PA SFI® Implementation Committee Supporters

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

A.M. Logging, LLC
Bingaman & Son Lumber Co., Inc.
Brownlee Lumber, Inc.
Cessna Brothers Lumber
Charles Brown Forestry Consulting
Cochran & Zandi Lumber, LLC
Eby Sawmill
Emporium Hardwoods
Frank Krammes Timber Harvesting, Inc.
Frey Lumber Company
Horizon Wood Products, Inc.
Kyle Troutman
Metzler Forest Products, LLC
Mountainside Hardwoods
Northwood Resources, Inc.
P&S Lumber, LLC
Penn-Sylvan International
Postlewait Logging Company
RAM Forest Products, Inc.
Remmey - The Pallet Company
Shade Mountain Forest Products
Springfield Hardwood Products, LLC
Stoltzfus Forest Products
Stoltzfus Logging, LLC
WBL Hardwoods
W.J. Cox Associates
Weaver Brothers Sawmill
Wheeland Lumber
WOODBED Corp

SFI Announces New CEO

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) announced that Matthew Reddy became its new Chief Executive Officer on September 1, 2026. He succeeds Kathy Abusow, who announced her retirement plans earlier this year after a 17 year career with SFI Inc.



Reddy brings more than 20 years of executive leadership experience in sustainable forestry, conservation, climate and biodiversity initiatives, commodity certification systems, and public-private partnerships. Most recently, he served as a Senior Private Sector Specialist with the Global Environment Facility at the World Bank, where he led initiatives and investments supporting global environmental goals. He previously directed the Forest Solutions Group at the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, working with forest-sector companies, certification systems, and sustainability initiatives around the world.

Matthew is based in the Washington, D.C. area.

In announcing the appointment, SFI Board Chair Dan Lambe noted Reddy's forestry-sector knowledge, global perspective, and experience at the intersection of sustainability, conservation, business, and finance. Reddy said he looks forward to building on SFI's legacy through credible, science-based standards; conservation initiatives; Indigenous partnerships; community engagement; and education.

Matthew's global perspective and executive leadership experience have prepared him to lead SFI into its next chapter.

This announcement concludes a rigorous and highly competitive search process that began in February.

A Growing Opportunity Beyond the Timber Sale

For most of Pennsylvania's logging and forestry professionals, the term "noncommercial forestry" may suggest work that does not produce a marketable forest product and therefore does not offer any business opportunity. While noncommercial forestry practices may not generate an immediate timber return for the landowner, they are paid services that require skilled contractors, sound forestry judgment, specialized equipment, and an understanding of what a forest needs to remain healthy and productive over time.

Commercial logging provides renewable raw material, supports local jobs, creates management opportunities, and can help landowners meet a wide range of objectives. But the work can also be affected by weather, market conditions, seasonal restrictions, site conditions, and changing customer needs.

Noncommercial forestry projects can give logging contractors and forestry businesses another way to keep employees working, make productive use of equipment and expertise, build relationships with landowners, and diversify income during periods when commercial harvest work is limited.

Noncommercial forestry involves activities that improve forest health, resilience, composition, and future productivity without producing an immediate sale of logs or other wood products. Examples include crop-tree release or pre-commercial thinning, invasive-plant and competing-vegetation control, forestry mowing, tree planting, and wildlife-habitat enhancement. These treatments can be especially important where a stand does not yet contain enough merchantable volume to justify a timber sale, but where timely action can help make a real difference in the quality of the future forest.

For example, releasing selected crop trees from poorly formed or competing trees can improve growing conditions, future timber value, and stand resilience, while invasive-plant control and other vegetation treatments help protect regeneration, native plant communities, and wildlife or timber objectives. Planting desired hardwoods or conifers and creating habitat features such as snags or brush piles can further support restoration, diversity, and

(Continued on back)



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)

Summer 2026, Issue #58

- 4 -

Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee (SIC)

NEWS

landowner goals.

Depending on the site and prescription, this work may involve chainsaw cutting, forestry mowing, herbicide applications, tree and shrub identification, equipment maintenance, and an appropriate applicator licensing for pesticide work.

These projects require sound planning, dependable crews, safe field practices, and attention to detailed specifications; in other words, “noncommercial” does not mean unskilled, unnecessary, or unpaid.

There is a real need for this kind of work in Pennsylvania. There is an identified shortage of skilled contractors capable of carrying out noncommercial forestry practices. At the same time, funding exists to support work on both public and private lands. Pennsylvania's Bureau of Forestry and Game Commission fund noncommercial forestry through operational budgets and project-specific

grants. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and conservation organizations can also provide financial and technical assistance to private landowners for noncommercial forestry practices.

For contractors, the first step may be to look closely at the services they already provide and identify where existing skills can transfer.

Noncommercial forestry is not a replacement for commercial timber harvesting. It is a complementary part of sustainable forest management. For loggers and foresters looking to broaden their services, diversify their revenues, and keep Pennsylvania's woods productive, it may be an opportunity worth exploring.

This article draws on *A Contractor's Guide to Non-Commercial Forestry: How to Get Started in Pennsylvania*, developed by The Nature Conservancy and Audubon Mid-Atlantic.

Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative®

Implementation Committee

Professional Timber Harvester Training Program

2026 Fall 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
09/09/26	Wed 7:00 AM	Basic First Aid and Adult CPR (4 hours)	Rebersburg (Centre County)	\$75.00	09/02/2026
09/09/26	Wed 11:00 AM	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Rebersburg (Centre County)	\$150.00	09/02/2026
09/10/26	Thurs 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)	Rebersburg (Centre County)	\$150.00	09/03/2026
10/05/26	Mon 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)	Penfield (Clearfield County)	\$150.00	09/28/2026
10/07/26	Wed 8:00 AM	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Penfield (Clearfield County)	\$150.00	09/30/2026
10/29/26	Thurs 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)	Honey Brook (Chester County)	\$150.00	10/22/2026
11/06/26	Fri 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)	Cambridge Springs (Crawford Co.)	\$150.00	10/30/2026
11/12/26	Thurs 8:00 AM	Basic First Aid and Adult CPR (4 hours)	Johnsonburg (Elk County)	\$50.00	11/05/2026

- ✦ Any employed resident of Pennsylvania is eligible to apply for up to 50% reimbursement of their training registration fees through the AgConnect program. For more information visit: <https://bit.ly/4iPaPUE>
- ✦ 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
09/11/26	Wed 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 2 (8 hours)	Rebersburg (Centre County)	\$150.00	09/04/2026
10/05/26	Wed 10:00 AM	Vegetation Management (4 hours)	Kane (McKean County)	\$50.00	09/28/2026
10/09/26	Thurs 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 2 (8 hours)	Penfield (Clearfield County)	\$150.00	10/02/2026
10/13/26	Mon 12:00 PM	Bats and Timber Management (4 hours)	Hanover (York County)	\$50.00	10/06/2026
10/14/26	Wed 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 3 (8 hours)	Penfield (Clearfield County)	\$150.00	10/07/2026
10/15/26	Thurs 10:00 AM	Wildland Fire Prevention & Response for PA Loggers (4 hours)	Dalton (Lackawanna County)	\$50.00	10/08/2026
10/16/26	Fri 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 4 (8 hours)	Penfield (Clearfield County)	\$150.00	10/09/2026
10/16/26	Thurs 8:00 AM	Pennsylvania's Timber Rattlesnakes (4 hours)	Brookville (Jefferson County)	\$50.00	10/09/2026
10/19/26	Sat 10:00 AM	Wildland Fire Prevention & Response for PA Loggers (4 hrs)	Greensburg (Westmoreland County)	\$50.00	10/12/2026
10/26/26	Fri 10:00 AM	Wildland Fire Prevention & Response for PA Loggers (4 hrs)	Wellsboro (Tioga County)	\$50.00	10/19/2026
10/29/26	Mon 10:00 AM	Wildland Fire Prevention & Response for PA Loggers (4 hrs)	Mercer (Mercer County)	\$50.00	10/22/2026
10/30/26	Fri 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 2 (8 hours)	Honey Brook (Chester County)	\$150.00	10/23/2026
11/02/26	Tues 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Storm Damage Cleanup (8 hours)	Hills Grove (Sullivan County)	\$150.00	10/26/2026
11/06/26	Wed 12:00 PM	Pennsylvania Wildlife (4 hours)	Reading (Berks County)	\$50.00	10/30/2026
11/09/26	Thurs 7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 2 (8 hours)	Blain (Perry County)	\$150.00	11/02/2026

- ✦ Any employed resident of Pennsylvania is eligible to apply for up to 50% reimbursement of their training registration fees through the AgConnect program. For more information visit: <https://bit.ly/4iPaPUE>
- ✦ 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.

- Additional Continuing Education Courses are likely to be added to the schedule for this spring. Please check the website (www.sfiopa.org/register) or call Mark at 814-230-2866 for updates.

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 6.7 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.

➤ PROFESSIONAL TIMBER HARVESTING ESSENTIALS IS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

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

2026 Fall Course Registration Form

- THIS TRAINING SCHEDULE MAY CHANGE AT ANY TIME WITHOUT ADVANCED NOTIFICATION. For current training offerings please visit: www.sfiotpa.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.sfiotpa.org/requirements or contact the PA SIC office (mark@sfiotpa.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. **CAN NOW BE COMPLETED ONLINE.**
- **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.

- **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.
- **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.
- **Pennsylvania's Timber Rattlesnakes (4 hours)** - Chances are if you have spent any time in Penn's Woods you have come across a Timber Rattlesnake. Most loggers probably wish they never saw another Timber Rattlesnake in their life, but actually, this snake needs the help of Pennsylvania's logging workforce in order to stay off the endangered species list. Habitat destruction as well as poaching threatens the future of Pennsylvania's Timber Rattlesnake Population. Find out what you can do to help.
- **Pennsylvania Wildlife (4 hours)** - a comprehensive four hour course on common wild birds and mammals found in Pennsylvania with a specific emphasis on the habitat needs of white-tailed deer, black bears and wild turkeys. Included will be segments on identifying wildlife foods, tracks, other sign and calls. The legacy of Pennsylvania's premier wildlife artist, the late Ned Smith, will also be covered.
- **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.
- **Wildland Fire Prevention & Response for PA Loggers (4 hours)** - Wildfires in Pennsylvania represent a threat to safety, forest resources, logging capital, and human infrastructure. While logging operations are not frequently a major source of wildfire in our state, fires do occur on timber harvesting job sites and have the potential to expand into larger fire incidents. Participants attending this class will learn wildland fire prevention with proper machine maintenance and job site BMPs to prevent loss from fire. We will discuss weather and other signs to watch out for during increased fire danger months. What to do if a wildfire does occur on your job site, who should you report it to, what to report, fire containment and control measures with hand tools and heavy equipment on site, and how to work with first responders.

Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee

748 Gravel Point Rd. Howard, PA 16841
Phone: (814) 230-2866 / Fax: (814) 355-1022
Email: mark@sfiotpa.org / www.sfiotpa.org

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative® is a service of SFI Inc.
SFI marks are registered marks owned by the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Inc.