



July 2024

Enabling Pennsylvania communities to thrive through a successful forest products industry.

Hello,

Welcome to Forest 411, our newsletter dedicated to keeping you informed about the Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee and promoting sustainable forestry in Pennsylvania. Stay tuned for more valuable insights and information!

PENNSYLVANIA SFI IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE WINS AWARD FOR COLLABORATING TO ADVANCE CONSERVATION AND OUTREACH



Chuck Coup, Program Manager with the Pennsylvania SIC, accepts the SFI Implementation Committee Achievement Award at the 2024 SFI Annual Conference in Atlanta, Georgia.

Lasting solutions to pressing conservation and sustainability challenges, such as species extinctions and climate change, require local collaborations that draw on our collective expertise. The Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee (SIC) has been selected as this year's award winner for effectively leveraging technical knowledge and outreach platforms to increase the uptake of sustainable forest management practices. Their leadership in providing expert technical guidance has profoundly influenced sustainable forestry practices across the state and throughout the SFI network.

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

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

"The Pennsylvania SIC is an exceptionally skilled team of volunteers that embraced the new collaborative opportunities highlighted in the **2022 SFI Standards**. Their collective experience in forest resource management gave them the technical basis for providing leadership on these initiatives," said Chuck Coup, Pennsylvania SIC Program Manager. "The achievements highlighted above stand as a testament to the unwavering dedication of our members, who are deeply committed to improving sustainable forestry practices in Pennsylvania."

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

We would like to thank Matt Gabler, Executive Director of the **Pennsylvania Forest Products Association** for nominating us. You can read Matt's nomination by clicking here **2024 SIC Nomination**.

"LAST CHANCE"
Go to Bat for the SIC and Win Big!

By supporting the Pennsylvania SFI

Step up to the plate by supporting the PA Sustainable Forestry Initiative Implementation Committee!



SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE PENNSYLVANIA
SFI-01141

By financially supporting* the PA SIC you will be entered into a drawing to win a luxury suite at PNC Park in Pittsburgh on Sunday July 21st for the game between the Pittsburgh Pirates and the Philadelphia Phillies.

Package Includes: (\$4,000 Value)

- 15 Tickets
- 4 Parking Passes
- Food and non-alcoholic beverage package
- PA Hardwood Bat with Company Logo engraved by BWP Bats of Brookville

Great for entertaining current or future clients, customer appreciation or rewarding top tier employees!

All entries are due by July 11th. Drawing will be held July 12th, 2024.



Brought to you by:



Implementation Committee, you have the incredible opportunity to bask in the excitement of a day at PNC Park. Perfect for commemorating a milestone or impressing a valued client, the Luxury Suites at PNC Park promise an unparalleled "home-field advantage" experience. Nestled on the prestigious Suite Level, these suites provide a sweeping view of the entire infield, ensuring an unforgettable time. The winner will also receive a meticulously crafted baseball bat made from premium Pennsylvania hardwood, skillfully manufactured in the heart of Brookville, PA by BWP Bats. Simply click on the 2024 Annual Assessment button below, and fill out the 2024 assessment form and submit it with a minimum commitment of \$500.00 to automatically be entered into the drawing. Winner will be chosen on **Friday July 12, 2024.**

If you have already submitted your 2024 Assessment Form and you've reached the \$500 minimum, they you are already in the drawing.

2024 Annual Assessment

This drawing is made possible by the folks at Trick Shot Sustainable Products and BWP Bats.



MONTH IN REVIEW

PA SIC attends SFI National Convention in Atlanta

Program Manager Chuck Coup, and Director of Outreach and Development Doty McDowell attended the SFI National Conference in Atlanta in June. By collaborating with our networks of SFI-certified organizations, community and conservation leaders, Indigenous representatives, government officials, researchers and educators, and other Implementation Committees we are able to identify and advance nature and community

grown solutions to conserve, sustainably manage, and restore ecosystems in ways that effectively address societal and environmental challenges to benefit both people and the planet.



The PA SIC finishes the spring training block



The mission of the Pennsylvania SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training Program is to provide an educational training system that promotes sustainable forest management, operational safety, skill improvement, and profitability to meet the needs of the timber industry in Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania forest landowners, and Sustainable Forestry Initiative, Inc.

Since the inception of our record-keeping in 2002, we have successfully delivered a remarkable total of 955 courses, enriching the skills and knowledge of over 14,700 individuals. This achievement stands as a testament to the dedication and hard work of the many outstanding men and women who tirelessly contribute to the training program for the PA SIC. Your commitment and passion have not only shaped countless careers but have also played a pivotal role in enhancing the capabilities of our community. Let us continue to strive for excellence and empower even more individuals through our impactful training initiatives.

Aspiring to become a SFI Qualified Logging Professional through the Pennsylvania SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training Program? The program requires individuals to complete two core courses and provide proof of current First Aid and CPR certification within a 24-month period. The core training itself takes three days to complete, and after that, you'll need to attend at least four hours of continuing education training each year to maintain your current training status. But don't worry, the program ensures that all training participants receive an updated copy of their training record after each course they complete. So why not take the first step towards becoming a qualified logging professional today?

To learn more about our Professional Timber Harvester Training Program click the button below.

Professional Timber Harvester Training Program

The Pennsylvania SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training Program does not audit the work of those who participate in the program and therefore does not "certify" individuals who maintain a current training status. The PA SIC does not endorse the work of individual loggers or businesses but verifies that they have met the training standards described in the Training Program Policy. Participants should refer to themselves as "SFI Trained/Qualified" and avoid representing themselves as being "certified" through the program. For additional details on "Trained/Qualified" versus "Certified" Logging Professional programs refer to **Section 6 - 11.1 and 11.2 of the SFI Program Standard**.

Upcoming Events & Trainings



Timber Night 2024

Friday, July 26th

Journey Bank Ballpark, at Historic Bowman Field
1700 W. 4th Street, Williamsport, PA 17701



Join us for a night of baseball, food and fun!

You are invited to the Williamsport Crosscutters Timber Night 2024 sponsored by Keystone Wood Products Association

Friday, July 26, 2024

VIP Gates open at 5:00 pm

Main Gates open at 5:30 pm

Picnic in Cutter's Cove: 6-7:30 pm

Williamsport Crosscutters vs. State College

Spikes: 6:35 p.m.

ADMISSION \$25.00 PER PERSON

A ticket costs \$25 and includes an all-you-can-eat-picnic buffet and premier game seating along the third base line in Cutter's Cove. Catch up with industry members while watching the Williamsport Crosscutters battle the State College Spikes. The game begins at 6:35 p.m.

PICNIC MENU

Build your own hot dog and/or burger and enjoy baked beans, mac and cheese, chips, peanuts, assorted desserts and nonalcoholic beverages.

SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT

The night will also offer special entertainment from Tyler's Amazing Balancing Act, which is sure to amaze and astound!

DON'T STRIKE OUT

Attend Timber Night 2024! Learn more and register for the event using the button below.

[Register for Game](#)

SAVE THE DATE

JULY 9, 2024

AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY CAMP DEMO DAY



SCI ROCKVIEW
1 ROCKVIEW PLACE
BELLEFONTE, PA 16823



**FREE TOUR/DEMO TO LEARN THE
PROGRAMS AND HANDS-ON TRAINING
INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS ARE
RECEIVING TO PREPARE FOR CAREERS IN
AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY**

TO OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION OR RESERVE YOUR SPOT,
EMAIL DORENDA HAMARLUND: DHAMARLUND@PA.GOV



INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHT

Our monthly newsletter will showcase our SFI-Certified Organizations, and esteemed SIC Partners and Supporters who's support of the SIC are making a positive impact on Pennsylvania's forests. This month we are highlighting Manulife Investment Management

Manulife has a storied history dating back more than 125 years in Canada, Asia, and with the John Hancock brand in the United States. Manulife



Manulife

Investment Management

Investment Management, including our timberland and agriculture businesses, are an important part of that history. As stewards of timberland and agriculture investments, our

mission is to create value through sustainable management of natural resource investments. Our clients' financial success depends on the health of our timberland and farms and our vertically integrated global management teams. Our team's diverse background and expertise gives us the ability to execute long-term property management plans, which are intrinsic to generating financial returns. From our investment process to our property management, the importance of sustainability — managing assets today in a way so they can continue providing benefits into the future — is fundamental to our investment philosophy.

Good stewardship is good business! We are made up of passionate and dedicated professional foresters and specialists who live locally and manage properties as good stewards of the land, environment, and community. We acquire and manage timberland for large institutions, such as pension funds, and partner locally with foresters working for Manulife Forest Management on-the-ground to sustainably care for the land. 100% of our eligible North American timberland investments are managed under the **Sustainable Forestry Initiative[®] program** (SFI). And 100% of our eligible farmlands are managed under the **Leading Harvest Farmland Management Standard**. This includes 3.1 million acres of timberland and 284,000 acres of farmland in the U.S. We employ over 900 people directly across the world, plus many contractors; we also supply local mills, which employ people in the local communities where we live, learn and work.

Manulife appreciates the role that the PA SIC[®] serves in supporting its members in meeting a variety of goals in the SFI Standard, including logger training, and we are proud to be part of this collaborative organization.

Manulife Investment Management has been an SFI Certified Organization in Pennsylvania for the past 19 years.

[Visit Manulife's Website](#)

SFI-certified organizations are crucial to the success of the SFI program. These entities have pledged to uphold the SFI Standards and have received third-party certification from independent auditors confirming their compliance. SFI-certified organizations prioritize sustainable forest management and fiber sourcing practices, which include maintaining forest productivity and health, protecting water quality, preserving biological diversity, and safeguarding special sites. They also provide training and education for employees, contractors, and harvesting professionals, support research efforts, and promote sustainable forestry through landowner outreach and community involvement. In addition to implementing these practices on forestland they manage, SFI-certified organizations also advocate for sustainable forestry practices on other lands.

[Who We Are](#)

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