



SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE PENNSYLVANIA

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Summer 2025 (Issue # 56)

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* Denotes certified SFI®-Certified Organization

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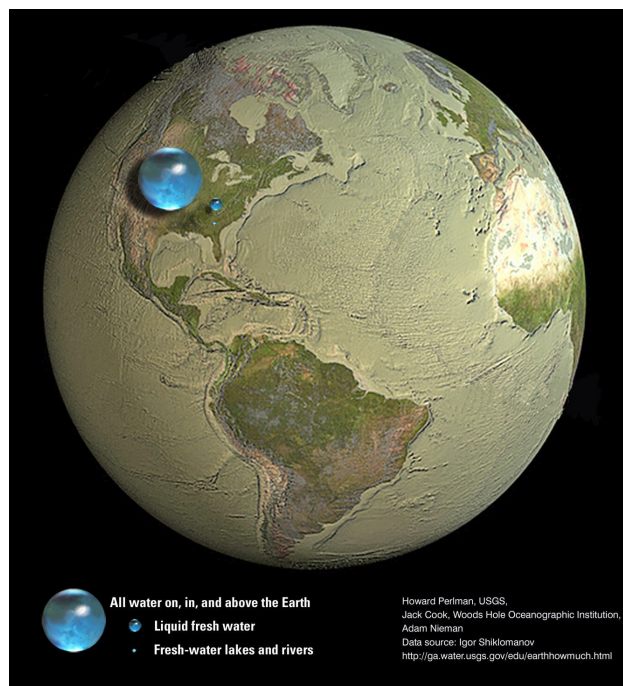
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Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee (SIC)

NEWS

Why Best Management Practices Matter

Have you ever stopped to think about how precious and limited our freshwater resources are on Earth? Water only comprises about 1/4400 the total mass of earth, and while approximately 71% of the planet's surface is covered by water, nearly 97% of that is saltwater in the oceans, leaving only about 3% as freshwater. Of this small fraction of freshwater, a significant portion (~69.6%) is locked away in glaciers, ice caps, and permafrost, and much of the remainder is stored underground (~30.1%). Only a mere 0.3% of Earth's water exists as unfrozen surface water in swamps, wetlands, rivers, and lakes. These surface waters not only support a nearly unfathomable abundance of terrestrial and aquatic life, they are also the primary water source for drinking, agriculture, and industry. This makes clean, accessible freshwater exceedingly valuable and underscores the importance of protecting and managing it wisely.



As shown by the small dot about the size of the period at the end of this sentence in the picture above, freshwater rivers and lakes comprise just 0.3% of the Earth's total water.

In Pennsylvania, surface water resources are abundant, with over 86,000 miles of streams and rivers, 403,924 freshwater wetlands, and numerous ponds, lakes, and reservoirs. These waterways are vital for the state's ecosystems and communities. Much of this water either initiates from, exists on, or passes through Pennsylvania's 16.6 million acres of forest lands. Our forests, particularly riparian buffers—the trees, shrubs, and grasses that grow along waterways—play a crucial role in maintaining water quality. They act as natural filters, absorbing pollutants from runoff, reducing erosion, and providing shade that cools water temperatures, all of which contribute to healthier aquatic environments.

Timber harvesting can pose risks to these water resources if not carried out responsibly. Poorly managed logging operations can lead to increased sedimentation and disruption of natural water flows, which can cause damaging floods, degrade water quality, and harm aquatic habitats. To mitigate these impacts, Pennsylvania requires that Best Management Practices (BMPs) be used during earth disturbance activities, such as logging. These practices are designed to protect water resources during timber harvesting by minimizing soil disturbance, controlling erosion, and preventing sediment and other forms of pollution from entering our waterways.

The Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee has been promoting the use of Best Management practices for decades through our Professional Logger Training Program and in our interactions with the forest products industry, foresters, and private forest landowners. Our website offers numerous resources related to water quality protection (<https://sfiopa.org/sustainable-forestry/best-management-practices/>) and the SFI certification standards mandate the use of BMPs.

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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 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 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).

PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry

Domtar Corporation

Forest Investment Associates

Georgia-Pacific, LLC

IM FD Timber, LLC

Independent Stave Company

Jamestown, LP

Manulife Investment Management

Nuveen Natural Capital

Pixelle Specialty Solutions

The Lyme Timber Company, LP

Weyerhaeuser Co.

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"When the well's dry, we
know the worth of water."

— Benjamin Franklin,
Poor Richard's Almanac, 1746

to adhere to these guidelines. Moreover, the implementation of BMPs is not only a legal requirement under Pennsylvania's regulations but also a moral imperative to ensure that all life, including future generations of Pennsylvanians and everyone that lives downstream of us, have access to clean and abundant water.

By understanding the interconnectedness of forests and water quality, and by adhering to established BMPs during timber harvesting, we can protect these resources for the benefit of all living things. Responsible forest management is not just about sustaining trees; it includes safeguarding the very water that sustains life.

SFI Sponsors and Presents ACF Awards

The Association of Consulting Foresters of America, Inc. (ACF) recently held their annual 2025 National Conference in Lancaster, PA. Through a new partnership that reflects a shared mission to advance responsible forest management and promote professional excellence in forestry, the Sustainable Forestry Initiative became the sponsor of the Association's annual Chapter of the Year Awards. The Small Chapter of the Year Award honors one of ACF's chapters with fewer than 20 members for excellence in engagement, outreach and leadership, while the Large Chapter of the Year Award recognizes one of ACF's chapters with more than 20 members.



The California Chapter of ACF was recognized with the 2025 Small Chapter of the Year Award, sponsored by SFI.



The Alabama Chapter of ACF was recognized with the 2025 Large Chapter of the Year Award, sponsored by SFI.

The Large and Small Chapters of the Year were announced and presented by Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee Executive Director, Chuck Coup, during the Awards Banquet. Chapter members present during the event accepted the awards on behalf of the respective winning chapters.

Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee Becomes Independent 501c3 Nonprofit Organization

In June of this year, the Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee was officially recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. This designation, retroactive to February 12, 2024—the date we filed articles of incorporation with the Pennsylvania Department of State—marks our transition to an independent nonprofit organization under the name "Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee Inc."

This step was taken to better reflect our mission as a public-benefit organization and to broaden our eligibility for grants and other funding opportunities that will help us sustain and expand our work. While the name and structure have changed slightly, our commitment to professional loggers, sustainable forestry, and responsible forest management in Pennsylvania remains exactly the same.

(continued on next page)

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.

Beiler Sawmill, LLC
C&C Smith Lumber Co., Inc.
Cummings Lumber Co., Inc.
D.H. Dubel Mill & Lumber, LLC
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
Laurel Run Pallet, LLC
Lee Brothers Lumber
Mark & Olivia Ott
Ordie Price's Sawmill, Inc.
Pine Creek Lumber Co.
RAM Forest Products, Inc.
Renno Brothers Lumber Co.
St Marys Lumber Company
Soap Stone Sawmill, LLC
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.
Blue Ox Timber Resources, 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
Mick Brothers Lumber, Inc.
Mountainside Hardwoods
Noll's Forestry Services, LLC
P&S Lumber, LLC
Penn-Sylvan International
Postlewait Logging Company
Remmey - The Pallet Company
Shade Mountain Forest Products
Springfield Hardwood Products, LLC
Stoltzfus Forest Products
Sylvandale Forestry
WBL Hardwoods
W.J. Cox Associates
Weaver Brothers Sawmill
Wheeland Lumber
WOODBED Corp

Our path to this point has deep roots. The Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee was first organized in 1995. In its earliest days, one of the most pressing questions was where the Committee should be “housed.” Both the Pennsylvania Forestry Association (PFA) and the Hardwood Lumber Manufacturing Association of Pennsylvania (HLMA)—which later became the Pennsylvania Forest Products Association (PFPA)—were considered. For much of that first year, the Committee leaned toward joining PFA, but by the year's end it became clear that HLMA offered the best alignment for our goals. In early 1996, a presentation was made to the HLMA Board of Directors, who unanimously voted to sponsor the fledgling Committee.

For nearly three decades since, the Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee has operated as a non-board committee of PFPA. During that time, PFPA's support, guidance, and advocacy have been essential to our success. We are especially grateful for the role the Association played in our formative years, providing the organizational foundation we needed to establish ourselves and grow into a respected and effective voice for sustainable forestry in Pennsylvania.

As we enter this new chapter as an independent nonprofit, we will carry forward the legacy of nearly 30 years of partnership with PFPA, and remain deeply thankful for all the ways the Association has strengthened and sustained our work.

Revisiting the TUSAF Key

When you're planning or reviewing a timber harvest, the Treatment Unit Sustainability Assessment Form (TUSAF) key offers a quick yet powerful way to check whether your decisions are supporting long-term forest sustainability. Originally developed by Penn State researchers and the U.S. Forest Service following the Timber Harvest Assessment Project (THAP) in 1995, TUSAF distills decades of scientific insight into something practical for every woodlot and harvesting unit. The TUSAF key emerged directly from that research, now serving as a simple but effective tool for loggers, foresters, and landowners alike.

TUSAF boils forest assessment down to seven foundational questions.

The first four focus on the overstory:

- Is the harvest a thinning or regeneration cut?
- What will happen to the average stand diameter?
- What will happen to species composition?
- What will happen to residual tree quality?

The remaining three address the understory:

- What is the condition of the existing advance regeneration?
- What is the role of interfering plants (competition)?
- What is the impact of white-tailed deer?

When aggregated, these questions provide a useful analysis of a proposed harvest's sustainability. The Sustainability Key itself weighs the assets (healthy residuals and regeneration) against liabilities (poor stocking, competition, or deer pressure) to show whether the outcome is likely sustainable, uncertain, or unsustainable. When liabilities stack higher than assets, the Key recommends delaying the cut until the issues are addressed.

The beauty of TUSAF is in its simplicity. It's not a cumbersome report, but rather a clear thought process to work through before harvesting. The dichotomous Assessment Key allows the user to arrive at an answer by working through a series of two-choice decisions based on observable or measurable characteristics of the forest stand and proposed harvest.

Even if harvest conditions seem sound, using TUSAF can reveal hidden concerns and provide the confidence to proceed, or the awareness that adjustments are needed. **This resource is an integral part of the PA SFI training program. Our “Sustainable Timber Harvesting” course offers a hands-on look at how to use the Key and understand the science behind it. The course will be offered on October 30, 2025, in PA Furnace (near State College) as part of our Fall 2025 training block. Don't miss the opportunity—register today (www.sfiopa.org/register)**

If you'd like to put the TUSAF Key to use on your next job, it is available for download via the PA SFI website's “Forms” section (<https://sfiopa.org/forms/>). In a few thoughtful steps, you can ensure each harvest truly supports the forest's future, because sustainable forestry isn't just good practice, it's how we keep Pennsylvania's woods working for generations to come.



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

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

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Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee (SIC)

NEWS

OSHA Heat Rule Update

This summer, OSHA's long-awaited Heat Injury and Illness Prevention Rule edged closer to reality. First proposed in the Federal Register on August 30, 2024, the rule emerged from mounting evidence that excessive heat, especially in physically demanding, outdoor industries like forestry, poses serious risks, including heat stroke, illness, and even death. This is a significant step toward a federal heat standard to protect workers.

The proposal, aimed at all general industry, construction, maritime, and agricultural worksites including both indoor and outdoor work settings where OSHA has jurisdiction, would require employers develop and maintain a written heat illness prevention plan (HIIPP), monitor temperatures, provide water, shade or cooled break areas, mandate acclimatization for new or returning workers, and offer training on heat risks and warning signs. Additional protections

such as paid rest breaks, observation for heat-related symptoms, and emergency response communication would kick in at higher heat thresholds such as 90 °F.

The public comment period on the proposal closed on January 14, 2025. OSHA held informal public hearings June 16–July 2, 2025. If finalized, implementation is expected in late 2025 or early 2026, though it will likely face delays or political challenges.

Pennsylvania's timber harvesters and harvesting administrators should begin reviewing their current heat management practices now and ensure they include onsite access to shade, cool water, and rest. Employees should be trained to recognize and respond to heat stress, and companies should begin laying groundwork for developing a formal plan. In the meantime, enforcement under OSHA's extended National Emphasis Program means inspections may still target high-risk operations, even before the rule is finalized.

Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative®

Implementation Committee

Professional Timber Harvester Training Program

2025 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
09/22/25 Mon	7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)	Penfield (Clearfield County)	\$ 150.00	09/15/2025
10/06/25 Mon	7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)	Laughlintown (Westmoreland Cty)	\$ 150.00	09/29/2025
10/17/25 Fri	8:00 AM	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Smethport (McKean County)	\$ 150.00	10/10/2025
10/24/25 Fri	7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)	Fayetteville (Franklin County)	\$ 150.00	10/17/2025
10/23/25 Thurs	8:00 AM	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Fayetteville (Franklin County)	\$ 150.00	10/18/2025
10/31/25 Fri	7:30 AM	Basic First Aid and Adult CPR (4 hours)	Johnsonburg (Elk County)	\$ 50.00	10/24/2025
11/04/25 Tues	8:00 AM	Professional Timber Harvesting Essentials (8 hours)	Penfield (Clearfield County)	\$ 150.00	10/28/2025
11/10/25 Mon	7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 1 (8 hours)	Renovo (Clinton County)	\$ 150.00	11/03/2025

- ♦ 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/3TinInM>
- ♦ 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
08/21/25 Thurs	7:30 AM	Wildland Fire Prevention & Response for PA Loggers (4 hours)	Brookville (Jefferson County)	\$ 50.00	08/14/2025
10/03/25 Fri	10:00 AM	Intro to Reptiles & Amphibians & Their Habitats in PA (4 hours)	Clarion (Clarion County)	\$ 50.00	09/26/2025
10/07/25 Tues	7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 2 (8 hours)	Laughlintown (Westmoreland Cty)	\$ 150.00	09/30/2025
10/09/25 Thurs	8:00 AM	E&S Control in Our Forests (8 hours)	Wilcox (Elk County)	\$ 20.00	10/02/2025
10/20/25 Mon	12:00 PM	Wildland Fire Prevention & Response for PA Loggers (4 hours)	Hanover (York County)	\$ 50.00	10/13/2025
10/27/25 Mon	8:00 AM	The Relationship Between Lumber, Tree, and Log Grades (8 hours)	Troy (Bradford County)	\$ 100.00	10/20/2025
10/30/25 Thurs	8:00 AM	Sustainable Timber Harvesting (8 hours)	Rock Springs (Centre County)	\$ 100.00	10/23/2025
11/05/25 Wed	8:00 AM	Wildland Fire Prevention & Response for PA Loggers (4 hrs)	Huntingdon (Huntingdon County)	\$ 50.00	10/29/2025
11/08/25 Sat	8:00 AM	Advanced Logger Rescue (8 hours)	Cassville (Huntingdon County)	\$ 100.00	11/01/2025
11/09/25 Sun	8:00 AM	Advanced Logger Rescue (8 hours)	McConnellsburg (Fulton County)	\$ 100.00	11/02/2025
10/15/25 Wed	1:00 PM	Native Plants of Pennsylvania (4 hours)	Reedsville (Mifflin County)	\$ 50.00	10/08/2025
11/11/25 Tues	7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 2 (8 hours)	Renovo (Clinton County)	\$ 150.00	11/04/2025
11/12/25 Wed	7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 3 (8 hours)	Renovo (Clinton County)	\$ 150.00	11/05/2025
11/13/25 Thurs	7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Level 4 (8 hours)	Renovo (Clinton County)	\$ 150.00	11/06/2025
11/15/25 Sat	7:30 AM	Game of Logging - Storm Damage Cleanup (8 hours)	Penn Run (Indiana County)	\$ 150.00	11/08/2025

- ♦ 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/3TinInM>
- ♦ 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 fall. 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 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/loggers/virtual-logger-training/>

2025 Fall 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.

- **Erosion Control in Our Forests (8 hours)** - This workshop combines indoor and outdoor instruction time to discuss Pennsylvania's environmental regulatory requirements (chapters 93, 102, & 105 of PA Code). It discusses planning before the harvest, stream crossings, best management practices, reading E&S plans, and other considerations during and after the timber harvest.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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

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