

SHARP Logger Program

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

What is the SHARP Logger Program?

The Sustainable Harvesting And Resource Professional (SHARP) Logger Program is an educational program designed to meet the logger training requirements of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) (www.aboutsfi.org). As of 2024, over 4,600 loggers, foresters, and others have completed the program, which is aimed at training loggers on the principles of sustainable forestry, environmental protection, and safety.

Who should attend?

Anyone is welcome to attend the SHARP Logger Program, however the material presented in the training is most pertinent to logging business owners, logging crew foremen, and loggers.

Why should they attend?

SHARP Logger training is not a legal requirement. Most SHARP Loggers attend the training because a mill that they deliver to requires them to complete the training.

How much does it cost?

Nothing! The SHARP Logger Program is provided for free. It is voluntarily funded by the companies that participate in the SFI Program in Virginia based on tons of logs and wood fiber produced annually. Additional funding comes from Virginia landowners who participate in the SFI program based on acreage.

When and where is the next training session?

There are several training courses offered around Virginia every year. Please visit www.SharpLogger.vt.edu/training.html for a list of upcoming training dates and locations.

Do I have to attend both days of training?

Yes, in order to complete the program and become a SHARP Logger, all 12 hours of classroom and field training must be attended.

Is there a test at the end?

No, there is no required test to complete the program. Simply show up and participate in the classroom and field training to receive credit.

How often do I need to attend these trainings?

The first two-day Core Classes only need to be attended once! However, SHARP Loggers must complete 8 hours of “continuing education” during every two-year period following completion of the core program to maintain their status.

Who can I contact for more information?

For more information or to sign up for a class, please contact Karen Snape at 540-231-6494 or SharpLogger@vt.edu. Also feel free to visit our website at www.SharpLogger.vt.edu.