

SHARP Logger Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

What is the SHARP Logger Program?

The SHARP Logger Program is an educational program designed to meet logger training requirements of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) (www.aboutsfi.org). As of 2017, about 4000 loggers, foresters, and others have completed the program, which is aimed at training loggers on the principles of sustainable forestry, environmental protection and workplace safety.

Who should attend?

Anyone is welcome to attend the SHARP Logger program, however the material presented in the trainings is most pertinent to logging business owners and logging crew foremen or crew members.

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 program.

How much does it cost?

Nothing! The SHARP Logger program is provided to its participants for free. It is funded by a voluntary assessment on each ton of logs and wood fiber produced annually by the companies that participate in the SFI program in Virginia, plus an assessment on each acre of Virginia forestland managed by landowners who participate in the SFI program.

When and where is the next training session?

There are multiple training courses offered around the commonwealth of Virginia every year. Please visit www.sharplogger.vt.edu/training.html for a list of upcoming training dates and locations. The core SHARP Logger classes are often (but not always) held on three consecutive Fridays.

Do I have to attend all three days of training?

Yes, in order to complete the program and become a SHARP Logger, all 18 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 trainings to receive credit.

How often do I have to attend these trainings?

The first three core classes only need to be attended once! However, SHARP Loggers must complete 12 hours of “continuing education” training during each three year period following completion of the core program.

Who can I contact for more information?

For more information, or to sign up for a class being offered near you, please contact Andrew Vinson at (540) 231-6494 or email at sharplogger.vt.edu. Also feel free to visit our website at www.sharplogger.vt.edu.