

SHARP Logger Program -- 2004 Annual Report

www.SHARPlogger.vt.edu

2004 Program Highlights

- ❖ 2004 was the third year since Virginia Tech Forestry Extension assumed responsibility for the administration and coordination of Virginia's SHARP Logger training and education program. Scott Barrett, Extension Associate, serves as the SHARP Logger Coordinator, and Bob Shaffer, Charles Nettleton Professor of Forestry Operations, as Program Administrator. The SHARP Logger program was fully funded by the forest industry in 2004 through the Virginia Sustainable Forestry Initiative[®] (SFI[®]) Implementation Committee, a committee of the Virginia Forestry Association. With continued funding from the Virginia SFI Committee, SHARP Logger programs continue to be offered without charge to participants.
- ❖ 2004 was an important year for many SHARP Loggers who were required to complete their 3-year, 12-credit Continuing Education (CE) requirement. Nearly one-half of all SHARP Loggers had a renewal date of 1/1/05. This renewal date marked the first "wave" of SHARP Loggers completing their second full 3-year cycle in the Program.
- ❖ A total of 167 "new" loggers earned SHARP Logger standing by completing the core program requirements in 2004. 576 individuals successfully completed the 12-credit CE requirement in 2004 and renewed their SHARP Logger standing, while 400 failed to complete the CE requirement and lost their SHARP Logger standing. We believe that many of the latter were from logging companies that employed more than one individual with SHARP Logger standing, while others were from firms that have simply gone out of business. This brings the current total number of active Virginia SHARP Loggers to 1633. These loggers represent approximately 1300 logging businesses, and produce an estimated 90%+ of Virginia's raw forest products.
- ❖ A total of 1346 individuals participated in 65 scheduled programs to earn SHARP Logger credits in 2004. Scheduled SHARP Logger programs were offered on 15 different topics at locations across the Commonwealth.
- ❖ The Virginia SHARP Logger Program continues to be a **cooperative effort** between the SFI Committee, the Virginia Tech Forestry Department, the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service, the Virginia Forestry Association, the Virginia Logger's Association, the VDOF, as well as other forest products companies, state agencies, insurance industry firms, and private landowners. These supporters provided training expertise, financial support, facilities, and field sites for SHARP Logger programs. A list of the organizations that supported the Program in 2004 is provided at the end of this report. **Without the help of everyone involved, the Sharp Logger Program could not succeed.**

VIRGINIA SHARP Logger Training Summary 2004

SHARP Loggers trained in 2004	Individuals
Received SHARP Logger Standing in 2004	167
Attended 1 or more Core programs, but did not complete in 2004	77
Attended 1 or more program for SHARP Logger CE credit in 2004	1187
Attended at least 1 program for SHARP Logger credit in 2004 (Core or CE)	1346

Summary of current SHARP Loggers	Individuals
Received SHARP Logger Standing to date	2682
Dropped from current listing on 1/1/04 & have 1 year grace period to renew	400
Permanently dropped from listing on 1/1/04	232
Current SHARP Logger status, but retired/out of business	5
Active SHARP Loggers on 1/1/05	1633

SHARP Logger CE Programs offered in 2004	Classes	Attendance
Log Grading & Merchandising Workshops	4	112
Improving Negotiating Skills	3	74
Oil Spill Prevention & Control	2	58
Logging Road Layout Classes	2	47
Basic Insurance for Loggers	3	62
Basic Finance for Loggers	4	49
Logger/Landowner field days, Demos and forestry workshops	8	151
VA Legislative Update + Transportation Regulations	1	22
Gypsy Moth Training	4	11
BMP Field Workshops	4	161
Map Reading & Orienteering for Loggers	1	19
Chainsaw Safety	6	187
Roadway Safety Workshops	10	164
Logger Professionalism	1	13
Richmond Logging Expo	1	438
Other classes approved for SHARP Logger CE credits*	11	140
TOTAL	65	

*Examples of other classes approved for SHARP Logger CE credits include forest landowner short courses, company trainings, forestry & wildlife bus tours, and SAF CFE approved programs where SHARP Logger CE credits were requested

Total SHARP Logger Training Contact Hours*	
Total training contact hours - Core Program	3357
Total training contact hours - Continuing Education	7907
Total training contact hours	11,264

*Number of attendees x program hours = contact hours

In addition to the direct financial support of the SFI Committee, broad “in-kind” support for the SHARP Logger Program was provided in 2004 by the following list of companies and organizations. We sincerely appreciate everyone who helped with programs in 2004 and apologize if we unintentionally left off anyone who should have been included on this list.

Bennett Logging & Lumber
Dabney S. Lancaster Community College
Forest Resources Association
Forestry Mutual Insurance Co.
Four Oaks Timber Co.
Georgia Pacific
Glatfelter Pulpwood Co.
Greif Brothers Corp.
Griffith Lumber
Independence Lumber Co.
International Paper
J.M. Huber Corp.
Leslie Equipment
Manry-Rawls Insurance Co.
MeadWestvaco
Mid-Atlantic Tree Harvesters
Norfolk Southern
Ontario Hardwood Co.
Patrick Henry Community College
Pilson Brothers
Pine Products
Reynolds Homestead
Sam Belcher Logging
Smurfit-Stone Container Corp.
Spotsylvania County
Stuart Flooring
Trus-Joist
Turman Lumber Co.
VA Cooperative Extension - County offices in Brunswick, Henry, Lynchburg, Charlotte, Pittsylvania, Campbell, Mecklenburg, Halifax, Franklin, Bedford, Amherst, Appomattox, Spotsylvania, Nelson.
VA Department of Forestry
VA Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
VA Department of Transportation
VA Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
VA Loggers Association
VA State Police Motor Carrier Division
VA Tech College of Natural Resources
Virginia Carolina Timber
Weyerhaeuser

Special thanks to the three VCES District Extension Foresters -- Adam Downing, Dan Goerlich and Jim Willis, for continued commitment to the SHARP Logger Program in their respective areas.