

VA SHARP Logger Newsletter

Volume 9, Issue 3

October 4, 2010

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New Online Training Added

A third online SHARP logger training has recently been added. The most recent online training is a basic timber cruising class. SHARP loggers can now complete 3 hours worth of CE credits online. The first two online trainings have each been completed by over 100 people and the response has been overwhelmingly positive. Participants completing the training have said that this is a good way to earn CE credits and have asked for more trainings to be offered online.

Welcome aboard Matt Brinckman

Matthew Brinckman officially joined the VA Tech Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation on September 27 as an Extension Program Associate. Matt will be with us for the next year and will be assisting with Forestry Extension Programming including the SHARP logger program, the Virginia LEAF (www.valeaf.org) program, the VA Forest Landowner Education Program and other areas of our Extension efforts. Matt will be helping to develop additional SHARP Logger online trainings and will also be helping to take registrations for many of the upcoming SHARP Logger classes.

CE Credit reminder

As 2010 winds down, a lot of SHARP loggers still need to earn CE credits to keep their SHARP logger status from expiring at the end of this year. Take the time to look at your mailing label and check your CE credits and renewal date. If you still need CE credits before the end of this year, we have several CE classes available. Check out the list inside for the remaining CE classes in 2010. In addition you can also earn up to 3 credits through the online trainings. For those that want to join either the VA Loggers Association or the VA Forestry Association, you can also earn 1 CE credit for membership in either of those organizations. Additional Information about those organizations is on the back of this newsletter. If your renewal date is 1/1/11 and you do not earn the required 12 credits by the end of the year, you will be dropped from the current list of SHARP loggers, but you will have one year to regain your SHARP logger status simply by earning the remaining CE credits. If you do not earn the required CE credits within 1 year of expiring, then you would have to re-take the core program if you want to become a SHARP logger again. As always, if you have any questions about your CE credits, or the SHARP Logger Program requirements please feel free to call or E-mail me with your questions.

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Upcoming Continuing Education (CE) classes

Notice that the number of CE credits you need is printed above your name on the mailing label, this is the number of CE credits that you still need to earn before your renewal date. As a reminder, SHARP loggers must earn 12 CE credits every 3 years in order to maintain their current SHARP logger status. So for example if you have earned 3 credits your label will say "You need 9 More CE credits before January 1, 20XX." If it says you need credits before 1/1/2010 then your SHARP logger Status has EXPIRED and you must earn the required CE credits by the end of this year or else you would have to retake the core program to become a SHARP Logger again.

The following is the list of CE classes remaining in 2010.

Location	Description (CE Credits)	Dates	Registration Contact
Buckingham Co.	BMP Issues and Practical Solutions (3 CE Credits)	10/22/10 1-4PM	
	This program includes a refresher on BMP's for water quality and includes recent information from the VDOF's BMP audits and highlights the successes of BMP implementation as well as areas which need more focus on implementation. To register, contact Matt Brinckman 540-231-3592 Or register by Email to : mdbrinck@vt.edu		
Clifton Forge	Basic Timber Cruising Workshop (6 CE Credits)	10/28/10 - Noon-6PM	
	This introductory level program will cover the basics of timber cruising. Participants will learn basic tree and log measurements and will perform a cruise to estimate volume of standing timber. To register, contact Matt Brinckman 540-231-3592 Or register by Email to : mdbrinck@vt.edu		
Galax	Logging Safety Refresher (3 CE Credits)	11/9/10 Noon—3 PM	
	This class will include a review of logging safety topics including recent training videos. To register, contact Matt Brinckman 540-231-3592 Or register by Email to : mdbrinck@vt.edu		
Martinsville	Wildlife Management + Logging Safety Refresher (3 CE Credits each - 6 total)	12/2/10 -9AM-Noon/1 -4 PM	
	Wildlife Management Workshop - This class will include an overview of basic wildlife management concepts as well as impacts of timber harvesting related to wildlife management. Logging Safety Refresher This class will include a review of logging safety topics including recent training videos. To register, contact Matt Brinckman 540-231-3592 Or register by Email to : mdbrinck@vt.edu		
Franklin, VA	BMP Issues & Practical Solutions + GPS Workshop (3 CE Credits each - 6 total)	12/6/10 Noon-6PM	
	BMP Workshops —will be the same as the 10/22 class in Buckingham described above. GPS Workshop —Covers the basics of using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit, and how to obtain coordinates of a location, acreage, distance, and navigate to a location. GPS Units are provided for use during class. To register, contact Matt Brinckman 540-231-3592 Or register by Email to : mdbrinck@vt.edu		

Hardwood Log Bucking Workshops (6 CE Credits)

A hardwood log bucking workshop will be held at the following locations. This workshop will include both indoor and outdoor instruction. Participants will learn about the basics of hardwood grading and bucking to optimize value. The workshop will utilize tree length logs where participants can practice bucking decisions to optimize value recovery from hardwood logs. The program will also include discussion on safety and avoiding defects by using proper felling techniques.

West Point Area 12/7/10—9-4 PM To register, contact Matt Brinckman 540-231-3592 Or Email : mdbrinck@vt.edu

Clintwood (Dickenson Co.) 12/10/10 9-4PM To register, contact Bill Worrell—276-889-8056 or E-mail: bworrell@vt.edu

Pre-registration is required and space may be limited.

Core SHARP Logger Program Schedule

The remaining SHARP Logger core class for 2010 is listed below, plus the first one for 2011. Additional Core programs for 2011 will be listed in the next newsletter. If you know of anyone who needs to complete the core program to become a SHARP logger, please pass this information along to them. The core program consists of classes on Sustainable Forestry, Logging Safety, and Harvest Planning & BMP's. Participants must attend all 3 of the core classes to become a SHARP Logger. For more information please get in touch with the registration contact listed for the class you would like to attend.

Location	Dates	Registration Contact
Louisa County	December 2, 9, 16	VCE Madison Co. 540-948-6881
Lynchburg Area	Jan. 28, Feb. 4 ,and Feb. 11	Matt Brinckman 540-231-3592

Online Logger Training

There are **currently 3 classes (total of 3 CE Credits) you can complete online** and more online class are planned for next year.

Two of the classes available so far were developed in cooperation with the VDOF and can be viewed from the SHARP Logger Website. The classes are "Protecting Water Quality with BMP's in Virginia", and "Laws Affecting Water Quality and Forestry Operations in Virginia". In addition we have just added a "Basic Timber Cruising" Online Class.

Combined, these classes have already been viewed over 200 times. SHARP loggers that have completed the classes so far have overwhelmingly indicated that the classes are easy to use, they would like to use online classes again, and have told us that it saves time and money compared to traveling to a class. While we have no intention of replacing "face to face" classes, we do intend to offer more online classes as another option to help SHARP Loggers earn the CE credits they need.

To complete the online classes go to our website at **www.sharplogger.vt.edu** On the home page, click on "Online Training", then review the instructions and click on the class you would like to view. **Each class will count for 1 SHARP Logger CE credit.** Follow the instructions online to submit for SHARP CE credits. You will need to have your SHARP Logger number to submit for CE credit.



www.SHARPllogger.vt.edu

Visit us on the web to find more useful information.

You can check your CE credits, complete online classes, find the most up to date list of upcoming SHARP Logger classes and find links to other related websites and sources of information.

Be sure to visit the "Resources" page of our website to find links to other information.

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VFA & VLA Membership Reminder

Membership in the Virginia Forestry Association (VFA) or the Virginia Loggers Association (VLA) can count for 1 CE credit per 3 year SHARP Logger renewal period. If you are a member of both organizations you could earn a total of 2 CE credits per 3 year period. The full SHARP Logger CE requirements can be found on the SHARP logger website or you can get a copy by calling Scott Barrett at 540-231-6494.

The Virginia Forestry Association

The VFA is dedicated to “Promoting stewardship and wise use of the Commonwealth’s forest resources for the economic and environmental benefits of all Virginians.”

Additional information as well as membership applications can be found at

www.vaforestry.org

Or by calling 804-278-8733



The Virginia Loggers Association

The VLA is “Dedicated to education, training and promoting a better understanding of the Forest Products Industry to the Commonwealth of Virginia.”

Additional information can be found at:

www.valoggers.org

Or by calling 434-589-1942

**VIRGINIA LOGGERS
ASSOCIATION**



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VLA