

Forestry Department, Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, VA 24061
August 5, 2005

SHARP Logger Newsletter

SHARP = “Sustainable **H**arvesting And **R**esource **P**rofessional”

Safety Training Program for New Logging Employees

Recent research at Virginia Tech found that nearly one-half of all logging injuries occur to workers with less than one year on the job. For that reason, a targeted safety training program has been developed especially for these “at-risk” workers. This safety program:

- Follows a structured, six step format designed to develop a strong and lasting commitment to safety in each new worker, and to avoid injury during that critical first year of logging employment.
- Is designed to be presented to the new employee by the logging business owner or crew foreman on a “one-to-one” basis throughout the first year of employment to clearly demonstrate the importance the employer places on safety.
- Complies with all applicable OSHA Logging Safety Regulations.
- Utilizes specified logging safety materials available at no cost through the website www.loggingsafety.com. This website, developed by the **National Timber Harvesting and Transportation Safety Foundation** and maintained by the **Forest Resources Association’s South-wide Safety Committee** includes Loss Control Overviews, Safety Alerts, Technical Releases, and sections from the *Timber Harvesting Safety Manual*. Other materials, such as videotapes and brochures, are listed under “Logging Safety Resources” and can be obtained from the FRA and other organizations at a nominal cost.

For the complete safety training package, go to www.loggingsafety.com and click on “New Logging Employee Safety Training Program”. The Program is free.

Bob Shaffer

Upcoming SHARP Logger Continuing Education (CE) Classes

The CE Credits you have earned for the current 3 year cycle, along with your SHARP Logger renewal date are printed on the mailing label for this letter. If you still need additional CE credits, the following classes will allow you to earn CE credits before the end of the year.

Log Grading & Merchandising Workshop (6 CE Credits) – Ontario, VA (Charlotte County) **September 9, 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM**. This class will cover the basics of hardwood log and lumber grading as well as bucking to maximize the value of your logs. To register, contact Theresa Long at the Charlotte County Extension Office at 434-542-5884.

Logging Road Location Workshop (6 CE credits total) – Clifton Forge, October 19, 6-9 PM AND October 20th 3-6PM. This 2 part class will cover the basics of logging road design and layout during the indoor session on October 19 and will include a field session on October 20th where participants will practice laying out a road. For more information or to register, contact Scott Barrett at 540-231-6494 or E-mail: sharplogger@vt.edu

VA BMP's Workshop (6 CE credits)–Thaxton (Bedford County) **October 14th, Noon – 6 PM.** This program will begin with an indoor session on BMP's for Water Quality in Virginia and will include information on the Department of Forestry Water Quality Program and Water Quality Law Enforcement. Afterwards we will travel to the field to discuss BMP & Water quality requirements. The field portion of the class will include demonstration of BMP installation to meet technical requirements. For more information or to register, contact Scott Barrett at 540-231-6494 or E-mail: sharplogger@vt.edu

VDOT Entrance Permits / Flagger Certification / and Gas Pipeline Safety (3 CE Credits)

This class will cover VDOT requirements for logging road entrance permits as well as acceptable and unacceptable practices within VDOT right-of-ways. This class will also include a review of a video and materials from the Flagger Certification Kit. After reviewing the materials, participants will successfully pass a test to become certified flaggers. This program will also include a presentation on what loggers need to know about safely working around pipeline right-of-ways. This class will be offered at the following locations:

Hopewell – Thursday October 6, 6-9 PM

Franklin – Thursday October 27, 6-9 PM

St. Paul – Thursday November 10, 6-9 PM

For more information, or to register for these classes, contact Scott Barrett at 540-231-6494 or E-mail: sharplogger@vt.edu

Chainsaw safety class (6 CE Credits)

This program will be conducted entirely in the field and will cover directional felling, personal protective equipment, and techniques to improve safety and productivity. The instructor will be Bryan Wagner, a former logger and currently a full-time chainsaw safety trainer for Forestry Mutual Insurance Company. Trees will be felled during the class, so **hard hats are required**. This same class will be offered at the following locations.

Covington – Thursday September 15, Noon – 6 PM. For more information, or to register, Contact Scott Barrett at 540-231-6494.

Warsaw or Tappahannock area – September 28, 9AM – 3:30 PM. For more information or to register, Contact Scott Barrett at 540-231-6494.

Louisa or Fluvanna Area – September 30, 9AM – 3:30 PM. For more information, or to register, Contact Adam Downing at (540) 948-6881.

Core SHARP Logger Program scheduled in Franklin

We also have the complete Core SHARP Logger program scheduled for the Franklin area at Paul D. Camp Community College if you know anyone who wants to become a SHARP Logger.

Sustainable Forestry – Friday October 21. **Harvest Planning /BMP's** – October 28th.

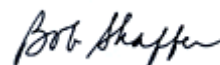
Logging Safety – Friday November 4th.

For more information or to register, contact Scott Barrett at 540-231-6494.

Sincerely,



Scott Barrett
SHARP Logger Program Coordinator
www.SHARPllogger.vt.edu e-mail sharplogger@vt.edu



Bob Shaffer
Timber Harvesting Extension Specialist

If you need to update your address or take your name off our mailing list, please call Scott Barrett (540)231-6494 or e-mail sharplogger@vt.edu