

Forestry Department, Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, VA 24061
April 23, 2003

SHARP Logger Newsletter

SHARP = “Sustainable Harvesting And Resource Professional”

Virginia Loggers Association, Inc. (VLA) recently formed

For those of you who have not heard yet, the Virginia Loggers Association (VLA) was recently formed. At their first meeting, Danny Goodbar was elected President, and Ronnie Wright was elected as Vice President. Jim Mooney will serve as the Association's Executive Director. The VLA is comprised of logging contractors throughout the state, and one of their main goals is to provide an information network for timber harvesting professionals and to be a voice for the timber harvesting industry in Virginia.

As a way of encouraging SHARP loggers to stay informed about news and events relating to forestry and logging in Virginia, the SHARP Logger program will award 1 CE credit for membership in the VLA. As many of you know, SHARP Loggers can already earn 1 CE credit for membership in the Virginia Forestry Association (VFA). SHARP Loggers can now earn 1 CE credit per 3 year period for membership in each of these organizations.

- For more information about the VLA, call Jim Mooney at (434)-589-1942 or e-mail VaLoggersAssoc@aol.com
- For more information about the VFA, call (804)741-0836 or find them on the internet at www.veforestry.org.

Don't Let your SHARP Logger standing expire

As a reminder, after becoming a SHARP Logger you must earn 12 hours of Continuing Education (CE) Credit every 3 years in order to maintain your SHARP Logger status. The number of CE credits you have earned, and your SHARP Logger renewal date is printed on the mailing label for this letter. The renewal dates are not until January 1, but now is the time to start thinking about getting the credits you need. Please keep an eye out for SHARP Logger CE classes in your area and make plans to attend so you can get the CE credits you need to renew your SHARP Logger standing. If your SHARP Logger standing expired on 1/1/03 you will have until the end of this year to get your SHARP Logger standing back by earning the required CE credits. Otherwise you will have to re-take the entire core program.

Upcoming CE classes

The following SHARP Logger CE classes have already been scheduled. More classes will be scheduled later this year and we will notify you by mail if there are new classes scheduled in your area, or you can find the most up to date list of classes on our website at www.SHARPllogger.vt.edu.

There is no charge for the following classes, however Pre-Registration is required

1. **Wildlife Management + Threatened & Endangered Species (6 CE credits) Clifton Forge, May 16, 12-6PM.** This class is taught by staff from the VA Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries, and focuses on basic wildlife management concepts, but also gives you information you may need to know concerning endangered species in VA. This class will be half indoors and half in the field. To register, contact Scott Barrett (540)231-6494.
2. **OSHA Standards Review, Oil Spill Prevention, Overview of Wage and Hours laws: (3 CE credits) Brookneal, May 30, 1-4 PM.** To register, contact Scott Barrett (540)231-6494.
3. **Chainsaw Safety: (6 CE credits): Bedford County; June 26.** This program will be outdoors, so be prepared for all weather conditions, and bring a hardhat. Presented by Bryan Wagner, a former logger and now a training specialist for Forestry Mutual Insurance Company. Bryan demonstrates the proper use of chainsaw safety equipment and directional felling techniques to improve safety and increase production. For more information, or to register, contact the VCE-Halifax County Office at 434-476-2147.
4. **Maps and Road Layout (3 CE credits) Buchanan County: July 10, 5-8 PM.** Learn where to get maps and how to use them in buying timber and setting up logging jobs. You'll also make an inexpensive slope measuring device and use it to lay out a short section of road. The class is both indoors and outdoors. To register, or get more information, contact Jim Willis at (276) 889-8056.

5. **More High Value Saw timber (3 CE credits) Scott County:** July 22, 6-9PM. The quantity of high value saw timber appears to be decreasing in Southwest VA. However high value saw timber production can be increased with attention to logging practices and working with landowners. This class is both indoors and outdoors. To register or get more information, contact Jim Willis at (276) 889-8056.
6. **Log Grading and Merchandising Workshop:** Will be held at Ontario Hardwood Corporation near Keysville. Date and Time TBA (Most likely a Friday in Late June). This program will include an overview of log grading using the Forest Service and "clear sides" methods, review log scaling, grade logs with various defects (mineral streak, ring shake, cat-face, cracks, etc.). See what the lumber from these logs looks like after they are sawn into boards. The lumber will be graded, and grade breakdown tallied. We'll also discuss markets, how felling impacts log and lumber quality, and bucking for maximum profit. Contact the VCE-Halifax County Office at 434-476-2147 to register.

SHARP Logger Core Programs

If you have any members of your company who have not been to the Core SHARP Logger program and would like to become a SHARP Logger, or if you know of other loggers who would like to become a SHARP Logger, please pass along the information about the following core trainings we have scheduled for later this year.

Lebanon: Sustainable Forestry – June 6, 12-6 PM; Logging Safety June 10 & 12 6-9 PM; Harvest Planning & BMP's June 20 12-6 PM. To register or get more information, contact Jim Willis (276) 889-8056.

Richmond Area – Date and Location TBA. The core SHARP Logger training is planned for later this summer in the Richmond area. To find out more information, contact Scott Barrett (540) 231-6494.

Mecklenburg County : Sustainable Forestry – September 5, 12-6 PM; Logging Safety September 12, 12-6 PM; Harvest Planning & BMP's September 19, 12-6 PM. To register, contact Scott Barrett (540) 231-6494

Lynchburg Sustainable Forestry – October 10, 12-6 PM; Logging Safety October 17, 12-6 PM; Harvest Planning & BMP's October 24, 12-6 PM. To register or get more information, contact Scott Barrett (540) 231-6494.

Sincerely,



Scott Barrett
Extension Associate and SHARP Logger Program Coordinator