

VA SHARP Logger Newsletter

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Virginia Logger Safety Checklist Booklet Now Available

We just recently completed the Virginia Logger Safety Checklist booklet. This booklet was adapted for Virginia and is designed as a tool to help logging businesses develop a customized safety program and document their safety training. This booklet can help businesses to document their OSHA mandated safety trainings and will help businesses to meet OSHA logging safety standards. These booklets will be distributed through SHARP logger trainings, through representatives from insurance and forest products companies, and can also be downloaded from the Virginia Cooperative Extension website. A link to download the booklet is available on the SHARP logger website.

Thousand Cankers Disease Quarantine in Richmond City, Chesterfield & Henrico Co.

The latest invasive forest pest to be discovered in Virginia is Thousand Cankers Disease (TCD). TCD attacks and kills walnut trees and is spread by the walnut twig beetle. Thousand Cankers Disease was recently discovered and has become established in Virginia. A quarantine is in place to try to limit the spread of this disease. Chesterfield and Henrico counties as well as the city of Richmond are currently under quarantine. The quarantine affects material from walnut trees (genus *Juglans*) and prohibits movement of walnut out of the quarantine area. There are specific exemptions as well as a process to apply for a permit to move quarantined material out of the quarantined area. If you plan to harvest walnut in Chesterfield or Henrico Counties or in Richmond City, you should become familiar with the quarantine requirements. Additional information can be found on the SHARP logger website where you can download the details of the quarantine.

Southern Pine Beetle Prevention Logger Incentive Program is Open Again

The Virginia Department of Forestry recently announced that the Southern Pine Beetle (SPB) Prevention logger incentive program has reopened. This program is designed to encourage thinning of pine stands to prevent infestation from SPB. The program provides a payment of \$2000 to loggers to encourage thinning of eligible stands that otherwise may not be feasible to thin. Eligible stands must be between 5-25 acres. Tracts with over 40 acres of pine of any age class do not qualify. There are additional details on eligibility for this program. If you are interested in participating in this program, please contact your local VDOF office. Please note that all projects must be approved through the VDOF office prior to beginning the harvest.

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 during this 3 year period, your label will say "You need 9 More CE credits before January 1, 20XX." If it says you need credits before 1/1/2011 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 currently scheduled CE classes for the remainder of 2011. A few additional CE classes MAY be planned for December, but if you need additional CE credits before 1/1/12, please try to take advantage of these programs that are currently available.

Negotiating Skills (3 CE Credits) Noon—3 PM and BMP Update (3 CE Credits) 3-6 PM Madison Co. October 19.

This program will include a workshop on negotiating skills for loggers and the second training will be an update on BMPs for water quality in Virginia. You can attend either one or both classes. To register, contact the VCE Madison Co. Office at 540-948-6881

Basic Timber Cruising Noon-3PM (3 CE Credits) and Overview of Biomass Harvesting 3-6PM (3 CE credits) - Oct. 20th Cascade, VA. The timber cruising workshop will be an introductory level class and participants will learn the basic concepts of estimating timber volume. The biomass class will include an overview of biomass harvesting and use and will include information on characteristics of biomass harvesting operations in VA. You can attend either class or both for a total of 6 CE credits. For more information or to register, contact Matt Brinckman at 540-231-3592 or E-mail mdbrinck@vt.edu

Basic Timber Cruising: Noon-3PM (3 CE Credits) and Overview of Biomass Harvesting 3-6 PM (3 CE credits) October 26th Holiday Lake, Appomattox, VA Same training as described above. Note this is a **RESCHEDULED DATE** and has changed since the last newsletter. For more information or to register, contact Matt Brinckman at 540-231-3592 or E-mail mdbrinck@vt.edu

Logging Safety Awareness & OSHA Refresher—October 21 at St. Stephens Church 3-6PM (3 CE Credits)

This class will include multiple logging safety related topics and will include discussion on how to use the new Virginia Logger Safety Checklist Booklet to help develop a safety training program and document OSHA training requirements. For more information or to register, contact Matt Brinckman at 540-231-3592 or E-mail mdbrinck@vt.edu

Area Logger Day —Henry County (6 CE Credits) December 2 This workshop will include an indoor session with a discussion of logging safety topics including and then will go to the field for chainsaw safety and directional felling refresher. For more information or to register, contact Matt Brinckman at 540-231-3592 or E-mail mdbrinck@vt.edu

A Logging Safety / OSHA Refresher (3 CE credits) and a Biomass Harvesting (3 CE Credits) are planned for December in Southeast VA. Date and location will be listed in the next newsletter.

Core SHARP Logger Program Schedule

The following Core classes have been scheduled for 2011. 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
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5 Core programs were completed during 2011.

Additional Core classes will be scheduled for 2012 and will be posted in upcoming newsletters.

Online Logger Training

The number of Continuing Education (CE) classes offered online continues to grow and we are glad that this new training option is helpful for many of you. So far the comments are very positive, most people are finding it easy to complete the trainings and many loggers have added comments that they would like to see us offer more online training. If you have ideas for an online training that you would like to see us offer, please E-mail me at sbarrett@vt.edu or give me a call at 540-231-6494.

Online trainings available so far include:

- "Protecting Water Quality with BMP's in Virginia"
- "Laws Affecting Water Quality and Forestry Operations in VA"
- "Basic Timber Cruising"
- "How to conduct a deed search"
- "Basic Chainsaw Safety & Directional Felling"

In the near future, these trainings will also be available through the VA LEAF (Links to Education About Forestry) website. Instructions and a link will be available from the SHARP Logger website once the VA LEAF online training site is available.

To view the currently available trainings, visit www.sharplogger.vt.edu and click on "Online Training". You will need to review the instructions, then simply click on the training you would like to view. At the end of the training there will be instructions on how to submit for CE credits.



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.veforestry.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