

Industrial Forestry Operations
Forestry Department, Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061

A NEWSLETTER TO VIRGINIA LOGGERS

March 13, 2002

SHARP Logger Program After successfully coordinating Virginia's SHARP Logger training and education program for six years from the Virginia Forestry Association office in Richmond, Jim Kuykendall has moved on to an Area Forester position with Glatfelter Pulp Wood Company in Fredericksburg. Our hats are off to Jim for a job well done! Upon Jim's resignation, Virginia's Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) State Implementation Committee, in consultation with the Virginia Forestry Association and Virginia Tech Forestry Extension, decided to move the administration and coordination of the SHARP Logger program to Virginia Tech. Thus, Virginia Tech Forestry Extension personnel are now in the process of assuming responsibility for all aspects of the Sharp Logger Program, including coordination and scheduling of both "core" and continuing education (CE) training programs, maintenance of the Program database and website, required Program reporting and evaluation, and development of new educational programs and training materials.

As a reminder, the SHARP Logger Program "core" training requirement consists of three 6-hour classes: (1.) Logging safety; (2.) Sustainable forestry; and (3.) Harvest planning and BMPs. Once SHARP Logger standing has been achieved, a logger must complete 12 hours of "continuing education" (CE) every three years to maintain his standing. At least 6 hours of the CE must be earned from SFI-approved CE training programs – the rest can be earned through "community service" that improves the logging business and/or promotes logging or forestry (examples include service club membership, hosting school tours, participating on local boards, etc.). Membership in the Virginia Forestry Association automatically earns each SHARP Logger 1 hour of "community service" CE.

With the help of several dedicated SHARP Logger "site coordinators", we have scheduled a number of SHARP Logger programs during this transition period. They are:

- (1) March 15 -- 8:00am-12:00 noon -- at Westvaco's woodyard in Franklin County, "Gypsy Moth Quarantine Information; Logging Safety; other topics" (4 hours of CE). Contact Jerry Foltz at 434-352-2622 for more information and to register.
- (2) March 22 – 1:00-7:00pm – Brunswick County Government Building in Lawrenceville, "Sustainable Forestry" (6-hour "core" program for loggers who need it, otherwise 6 hours of CE). Contact Dan Goerlich at 434-476-2147 for more information or Virgie Dow at 434-848-2151 to register.

- (3) March 28 – 6:00-9:00pm – Galax Elementary School Cafeteria, “Logging Business Management” (3 hours of CE), contact Jim Willis at 276-889-8056 for more information and to register.
- (4) April 2 – 6:00-9:00pm – Patrick Henry Community College Building in Stuart, “Logging Business Management” (3 hours of CE), contact Jim Willis at 276-889-8056 for information and to register. (This is the same program as March 28)
- (5) April 10 – 6:00-9:00pm – Patrick Henry Community College Building in Stuart, “Improving Negotiating Skills for Loggers” (3 hours of CE), contact Jim Willis at 276-889-8056 for information and to register.
- (6) April 11 – 6:00-9:00pm – Southside Virginia Community College in Keysville, “Improving Negotiating Skills for Loggers” (3 hours of CE), contact Dan Goerlich at 434-476-2147 for information.
- (7) April 12 – 12:00 noon – 6:00pm -- Reynolds Homestead at Critz (Patrick County), “Applied Chainsaw Safety” (6 hours of CE), contact Jim Willis at 276-889-8056 for information and to register.
- (8) Complete SHARP “Core” Program for eastern Virginia Area:
Where: Dorey Park and Recreation Center (near Richmond airport)
When: May 3 (Sustainable Forestry); May 10 (Logging Safety); May 17 (Harvest Planning and BMPs)
Contact for registration information: Tracey Sherman at 540-231-7671.
- (9) Complete SHARP “Core” Program for Central Virginia area:
Where: Central Virginia Community College at Lynchburg
When: June 7 (Sustainable Forestry); June 11, 12 (Logging Safety); June 14 (Harvest Planning and BMPs)
Contact for registration information: Tracey Sherman at 540-231-7671.

Sincerely,



Bob Shaffer
Timber Harvesting Extension Specialist