

The SHARP Logger Core Program

Topics listed below are covered by a combination of state agency personnel, insurance industry representatives and other knowledgeable discussion leaders from Extension and forest industry.

Day 1 - Sustainable Forestry (6 Hours)

(combination of indoor and field exercises)

- Introduction and overview of the SHARP Logger program
- Sustainable Forestry – Definition and necessary elements of sustainable forestry
 - Introduction to the SFI Program
- Forestry aesthetics on logging operations
- T&E species, special sites, invasive exotic species
- Logger/Landowner relationships, legislative awareness and outreach through participation in local, state, and national organizations

Travel to and assemble at field location for forest management field exercise

- Overview of silviculture and basic forest management decisions including reforestation, silvicultural prescriptions, and potential site impacts from harvesting.

Day 2 - Logging Safety (6 hours)

(primarily conducted indoors)

- Log Truck Safety and overview of Motor Carrier Safety Program with VA State Police Motor Carrier Trooper
- Logging Equipment Safety
- OSHA and other regulations related to logging operations
- Chainsaw Safety

Day 3 - Harvest Planning & BMPs (6 Hours)

(primarily conducted in the field with some indoor training)

- Overview of VA's BMP program, water quality law, and appropriate use of BMP's such as SMZ's as well as appropriate BMPs for road construction, maintenance and closure.
- BMP audit of recently harvested tract – if available
- Discussion of BMP's used on the tract/ technical specifications / questions regarding BMP's

- Introduction and Overview of Harvest Planning Exercise
- Harvest planning / use of topo maps
- Divide into groups and develop tract harvest plan
- Group discussion: advantages and disadvantages of each harvest plan

Conclusion