

# VA SHARP Logger Newsletter

Virginia Tech  
 College of Natural Resources & Environment  
 Dept. of Forest Resources & Environmental Conservation  
 (MC0324)  
 Cheatham Hall, RM 228  
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 Virginia SHARP Logger Program  
[www.SHARPlgger.vt.edu](http://www.SHARPlgger.vt.edu) 540-231-6494



## New Feature!

Scan this QR code with your phone to watch a video of someone reading the newsletter.



## Virginia Department of Forestry Water Quality Staff

The Virginia Department of Forestry has dedicated water quality staff. These Engineers and Specialists enforce the state's water quality protection laws. They train and advise area VDOF technicians on BMPs and pre-harvest planning. They perform audits of past harvests to measure the good work Virginia's harvesters are doing to prevent erosion and sedimentation. They also administer the BMP Cost-Share and Temporary Water Crossing Cost-Share programs.

### Eastern Region

|                              |                |                               |                |
|------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Stephen Jasenak, WQ Engineer | (434) 329-0056 | Nelson Hillyer, WQ Specialist | (804) 296-8771 |
| Steve Coleman, WQ Specialist | (434) 532-9274 |                               |                |

### Central Region

|                              |                |                             |                |
|------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Rodney Newlin, WQ Engineer   | (434) 962-3395 | Derek Keiser, WQ Specialist | (540) 460-8642 |
| Kevin Dawson, WQ Specialist  | (540) 357-0310 | Zoë Sumrall, WQ Specialist  | (540) 331-8268 |
| Don Giegerich, WQ Specialist | (434) 907-1631 |                             |                |

### Western Region

|                                 |                |                             |                |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Andrew Vinson, WQ Engineer      | (540) 810-0153 | Leslie Mace, WQ Specialist  | (434) 906-1104 |
| Jonathan Edwards, WQ Specialist | (276) 274-4929 | Nick Perkins, WQ Specialist | (276) 235-5652 |
| Daniel Cloeter, WQ Specialist   | (540) 352-9943 |                             |                |

## A Safety Short

The skidder operator released the cable and dropped the skid of logs behind him as he saw me walking up the hill. He hollered at me to come over as he staggered down the steps of his machine. If you have ever gotten anything in your eyes that you couldn't get out, it can become pretty scary. You become disorientated, and it hurts! Your vision gets blurry and all you want is to have whatever is in there be removed. That was the case this day. This operator was pulling double duty and was also cutting trees without any eye protection. As he came around with the saw, he inadvertently filled his eyes with the chips flying out of the back cut. I flushed his eyes and was able to remove a majority of it. I sat him down and continued to flush it and was able to remove what we figured was the rest of it. He returned to work a short time later. His eyes continued to tear up and flush out any remaining dust, but he was miserable. It could easily have been prevented with a simple pair of safety glasses or a face shield on his hardhat. Why take the risk when it is so easy to prevent it? Keep yourself and your employees safe by setting the example and requiring your people to follow your lead with eye protection. At some point you will be very glad you did!

*Article by Pat Donnelly, [patrick.donnelly1@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:patrick.donnelly1@mail.wvu.edu)*

## How Many Credits Do I Need?? How Can I Check My Credits??

We are almost finished shifting everyone to an 8-credit, 2-year renewal cycle. If you became a SHARP logger in 2020 or last renewed your status on 1/1/2021, then you still must earn 12 CE credits for your 1/1/2024 renewal. Everyone else must earn 8 CE credits every 2 years. Everyone must take the 3-credit, required SHARP Logger Update Class in every renewal cycle. **The number of CE credits you need is printed above your name on the mailing label.** If the label says "Update Needed" then you have not attended the required SHARP Logger Update Class and need the Update before you can renew. **Even if you have more than enough credits, you must take the Update.** The label will also show your renewal date. If it says your credits are due by 1/1/2023 then your SHARP logger status has expired and you must earn the required CE credits by the end of this year or else you will have to retake the Core Program to become a SHARP Logger again.

You can also check your credits, Update status, and renewal date on the website ([www.sharplogger.vt.edu](http://www.sharplogger.vt.edu)), by typing your last name (only) in the "check credits" box at the top of the page. If your record does not come up, either your SHARP status is expired or there is an error.

## Upcoming Continuing Education (CE) classes

### SHARP Logger Update Class (3 CE Credits)

The SHARP Logger Update Class includes a BMP refresher, a logging safety refresher, and other topics that impact logging businesses. The training meets the "SHARP Logger Update Class" Continuing Education requirement. SHARP loggers must attend at least one of these required classes during each renewal period. This class will be offered at the following locations:

**Roanoke:** August 19, 1:30-4:30pm. During the VLA Annual Meeting but free including to non-members - register with the SHARP Logger Program.

**Castlewood, Russell County:** August 25, 11am-4pm. Includes bonus 1 CE Special Topic. Register by 8/18 for free lunch.

**King and Queen:** September 15. Details pending.

**Lynchburg:** September 21, 9am-12pm. Followed by Topics in Sustainable Forestry. Register by 9/14 for sponsored lunch.

**Louisa:** September 22, 9am - 12pm. Followed by Topics in Sustainable Forestry.

**Halifax:** Oct 5. Followed by Chainsaw training. Details pending

**Colonial Heights:** November 10. Followed by Legal Issues. Details pending.

### Additional CE Credit Opportunities

**Topics in Sustainable Forestry:** Lynchburg. September 21, 1-4pm. 3 CE credits. Following the SHARP Logger Update Class

**Topics in Sustainable Forestry:** Louisa. September 22, 1-4pm. 3 CE credits. Following the SHARP Logger Update Class.

**Chainsaw Training Demo:** Halifax. Oct. 5. Details pending

**Legal Issues:** Colonial Heights. November 10, details TBD.

All classes tentative. Check [www.SHARPllogger.vt.edu/training.html](http://www.SHARPllogger.vt.edu/training.html) or contact the SHARP Logger Program at [SHARPllogger@vt.edu](mailto:SHARPllogger@vt.edu) or 540-231-6494 for the most up-to-date information.

## 2023 Core SHARP Logger Program Schedule

The Core Program consists of classes on Sustainable Forestry, Logging Safety, and Harvest Planning & BMP's. Participants must attend both core sessions to become a SHARP Logger. For more information or to register, please contact the SHARP Logger Program at [sharplogger@vt.edu](mailto:sharplogger@vt.edu) or (540) 231-6494.

Core 1

Core 2

Location

Thursday, August 17

Friday, August 18

SVCC, Alberta, Brunswick County

Wednesday, October 25

Wednesday, November 1

MGCC, Clifton Forge

**Registration required!** For more information, contact the SHARP Logger Program at: [sharplogger@vt.edu](mailto:sharplogger@vt.edu) or 540-231-6494.

## Online Continuing Education Logger Training

There are currently 10 one-credit SHARP online trainings available on the SHARP online training webpage at [www.sharplogger.vt.edu/onlinece.html](http://www.sharplogger.vt.edu/onlinece.html). The SHARP Logger Update Class is available under all of the one-credit classes. SHARP loggers can also get CE credit for viewing Mid-Atlantic Logger Training Webinars. MALT webinars are available from West Virginia Cooperative Extension, with a link and instructions for creating a free user account on the SHARP online training webpage.

*(articles continued)*

### Virginia's Hardwood Initiative

Oaks get a lot of attention in hardwood management, and rightfully so. They are the cornerstone of most hardwood forests, consistently have value, and are necessary for many game and non-game wildlife. In short, they're awesome. But many oaks are declining, and they need regenerated. What makes for good oak regeneration?

Oaks regenerate successfully through large, advanced regeneration. Their acorns grow in the fall (White oaks) or spring (Red oaks) after hitting the ground. Then, they spend years growing a large root system while the stem grows slowly. Once the seedling gets to be six feet tall and is nearly an inch in diameter at the ground, it's ready for lots of light and to compete into the canopy. Even if it were cut, it would resprout strongly to compete against other fast-growing trees like Yellow Poplar, Sweetgum, and Black Cherry. Foresters like to see at least 350 oak seedlings per acre like this to successfully grow another oak forest. The large advanced regeneration needs to be in place before harvesting timber for the oaks to be successful.

Large, advanced oak regeneration isn't present in most hardwood forests. There isn't enough light for the seedling to grow into large regeneration in a closed canopy forest with a mid-story. The right amount of light needs to get to the oak seedlings on the forest floor, but not so much that faster growing, light loving trees overtake them. To get the right amount of light, you normally need to remove the mid-story and a few trees that are just poking into the canopy. This practice is called Mid-story Removal, and helps small oak seedlings get enough light to grow into large advanced regeneration that can compete successfully into the canopy.

Talk to your forester about how and when to do Mid-story Removal. It's needed in lots of forestland, and some landowners and foresters are looking to have it done.



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## **Virginia SHARP Logger Newsletter**

**Find more information online at [www.SHARPllogger.vt.edu](http://www.SHARPllogger.vt.edu)**

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Conservation  
[www.frec.vt.edu](http://www.frec.vt.edu)**

**VA Tech College of Natural Resources & Environment  
[www.cnre.vt.edu](http://www.cnre.vt.edu)**

**VA Cooperative Extension  
[www.ext.vt.edu](http://www.ext.vt.edu)**

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If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in these activities, please contact Karen Snape at 540-231-6494/TDD\* during business hours of 8a.m. and 5p.m. to discuss accommodations 5 days prior to the event. \*TDD number is (800)828-1120