



The Logger

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Maryland / Delaware



New Format for Core Courses

Core courses will be offered in a slightly different format this year. Three of the four modules (safety, endangered species/activism, and erosion and sediment control) will now be offered separately over the course of the year, both as core components and as continuing education (CE) courses. The fourth module, forest management, will not count as a CE course, but will be offered to loggers needing to complete core requirements.

Courses will be scheduled in the evening instead of during working hours.

Many of these programs will

be hosted with web conferencing software called Centra. This software allows maximum flexibility, with two-way audio/video capabilities, and the ability to log on from any computer with a high-speed internet connection.



Many course offerings will now be available through Centra

Sustainable Forestry III: Endangered & Threatened Species and Logger Activism, will be offered on **April 2, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.** for \$30. The program will be presented in person in Queenstown, MD;

and live via Centra at Allegany College, Cumberland, MD; and Wor-Wic College, Salisbury, MD. A similar event for the OSHA Logging Safety core course is tentatively planned for June 4. Contact Nevin if you are unable to attend any of these locations, and an individual connection may be possible. This course may be used either for CE credit (4 hours) or as a step towards completing the Master Logger core requirements. We hope that this new format will make it easier for both new and old Master Loggers to participate in our course offerings.

MARBIDCO Offers Low-Interest Loans

The Maryland Agricultural and Resource Based Industry Development Corporation (MARBIDCO) is now offering low-interest (2% fixed APR) loans to rural entrepreneurs looking to finance a business project.

This type of loan could be used, for example, to purchase equipment specialized for working in wet conditions or for conducting thinning operations. MARBIDCO can provide half of the total loan amount, while the other half

must come from a commercial vendor in most cases. For more information and application forms, visit www.marbidco.org.



MARBIDCO
growing rural ventures™

Stony Troyer Remembered



Stony Troyer and Charles Wiley logging on the Wiley Farm in 1986

In a tragic logging accident on January 28, William "Stony" Troyer was trapped under a falling tree. He was extracted by emergency services, but died before reaching the hospital.

Stony was a highly experienced logger and had been involved in the Master Logger program

since 1995.

The accident occurred while Stony was dropping a large tree. It appeared that the tree fell in an unexpected direction and hit a smaller tree, which then fell back and pinned Troyer.

His viewings and funeral are estimated to have been attended by more

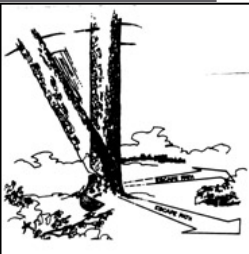
than 1000 people.

Please read the safety article below, and the next time you fire up a chainsaw, pause for a moment to remember safety and Stony.

To view and sign the online guest book, go to www.legacy.com and search for "William Troyer."

"Never leave a lodged tree, also called a 'danger tree,' because it may fall unexpectedly."

Plan and clear an escape path at a 45-degree angle away from the direction of tree fall.



Drop the Danger out of "Danger Trees"

Safety must always be our first priority, whether slogging through mud with a chainsaw or sitting in an air-conditioned loader cab. Below are some essential practices for hand-felling trees from the Forest Resources Association's Timber Harvesting Safety Manual.

⇒ Each tree shall be checked for lean, limbs, shape, crook, wind direction, butt defects and dead, lodged limbs. Plan the tree's direction of fall. Observe and allow for hazards in surrounding trees which may be "triggered" by the tree being felled.

⇒ Plan and clear an escape path at a 45-degree angle in the opposite direction to the planned direc-

tion of tree fall.

⇒ Never leave a lodged tree, also called a "danger tree," because it may fall unexpectedly. Never work in the area of a lodged tree. Each danger tree shall be felled using mechanical or other techniques that minimize employee exposure before work is commenced in the area of the danger tree. Always have lodged trees safely pulled or pushed down with the aid of a skidder, tractor, or other heavy equipment.

⇒ If the danger tree is not felled, it shall be marked and no work shall be conducted within two tree lengths of it unless the employer demonstrates that a shorter distance will not create a hazard to em-

ployees. Move two tree lengths away from the tree before resuming work.

⇒ Domino falling of trees is prohibited. Falling a single danger tree by falling another single tree into it is not recommended. Never climb lodged trees or attempt to cut sections out of a lodged tree. Never cut the tree supporting a lodged tree.

⇒ The immediate supervisor shall be consulted when conditions appear unusually hazardous.

These are only a few of the many safety concepts that must be foremost in your mind when dropping trees, no matter what the conditions. Find out more at www.loggingsafety.com.

Same Trees, More Money: Better Bucking Brings More Bucks



Knots, sweep, rot, seams and bird peck can all decrease the size of the check from the mill, but learning how to work with defects instead of against them can retain up to 35% more value

per stem. There are four rules of thumb when bucking up logs that will help you get the most value out of every stem.

1. Know your market: The only way to get a lot of money is to know what buyers are willing to pay a lot of money for. Cut the longest log possible without dropping grade.
2. Make it straight: Place cuts to minimize sweep and crook.
3. Look for the pumpkin: The

high-value log may not be in the butt. Identify the high-value log first and then buck around it.

4. Place defects on the ends of logs: This will increase the length of clear cuttings.

Learn more and get hands-on experience in optimizing your bucking at upcoming training sessions. Register for the free training on April 12 in Friendsville, or for the training at Edrich Lumber in Windsor Mill, tentatively on June 7. See calendar for details.

“The only way to get a lot of money is to know what buyers are willing to pay a lot of money for.”

New ML Website Offers More Services

The launch of the new MD/DE Master Logger website will make opportunities to fulfill CE requirements easier to find, and will increase communication with program staff for Master Loggers. The new site features a calendar with upcoming events, contact information for the coordinator and steering

committee, and an easy-to-use web-based contact form. This newsletter as well as archived back issues will now be online. PowerPoint presentations and publications on certain topics are also available. Stay tuned for the addition of self-contained CE and core courses that may be taken for credit right on

your computer, at your convenience. The site is still in development, so please let us know how we can further improve it to meet your needs.



Delaware Incorporated into Logo

We are happy to present the new and improved Master Logger logo. Thanks to Shachar “Don” Weizman at Edrich Lumber for making the long overdue change to include Delaware in the Maryland/Delaware Master Logger Program logo.

Delaware has been part of the

program for several years, but complications with the original graphic designer prevented us from making the change to the logo.

Our bi-state partnership has been strong since it was initiated, and is now represented graphically.





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THE LOGGER is the official publication of the MD/DE Master Logger Program, Master Logger Steering Committee (MLSC), and the Maryland SFISIC.

Are You Really a Master Logger?

Most of you know that the title of Master Logger only goes to those who have been through the four core courses, have submitted proof of current first aid and CPR certification, and who keep up with the required eight hours of continuing education credits.

There may be some of you, however, who are unaware that you have not yet met all of these requirements, or who have let your continuing education credits lapse, and therefore cannot claim Master Logger status.

Active Master Loggers will receive a letter from Steering Committee Chair Bill Cheesman by the end of March detailing their

current CE credit status and requirements. **If you do not receive this letter, you are not a Master Logger** for one of the reasons listed above (or because of an error in our records). If you think this is incorrect, please contact Nevin to go over your records. *Still need CE credits? Check out the listings to the right!*



Have you met all of the Master Logger requirements?

CALENDAR

DE Forestry Association annual meeting: Mar 20, 6-9. Felton Fire Hall, Felton, DE. \$15/20. Dot Abbott, 302-730-4000.

ML Core: Sustainable Forestry III, Endangered Species and Logger Activism: Apr 2, 5-9. Wye REC, Queenstown, MD; Allegany College, Cumberland, MD; and Wor-Wic College, Salisbury, MD. \$30. Carol Taylor, 410-827-8056.

Bucking workshop: Apr 12, 8-4. Red Rock Enterprises, Friendsville, MD. Free. Brian Knox, 443-458-5237.

ML Core: OSHA Logging Safety: Jun 4, 5-9 (tentative). Wye REC, Queenstown, MD; Allegany College, Cumberland, MD; and Wor-Wic College, Salisbury, MD. \$30. Carol Taylor, 410-827-8056.

Bucking workshop: Jun 7, 8-4 (tentative). Edrich Lumber, Windsor Mill, MD. Price TBD. Carol Taylor, 410-827-8056.