



*A Cooperative Effort of
Timber Harvesters, Industry,
Government and Education*

New York Logger Training

**NEW YORK LOGGER TRAINING, INC.
TRAINED LOGGER CERTIFICATION - "TLC"
INFORMATION AND ANSWERS TO COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

Who is "TLC" for?

- * Training and certification is for anyone who works in the woods as a harvester, skidder operator or log bucker at a landing.
- * Training and certification is also for supervisors of these workers and owners/managers of harvesting businesses.
- * Certification is for landowners - foresters and wood-using industries to use, to help identify and support those harvesters who have made the investment in training and improved practices.
- * Certification is for the public - as visible evidence of the interest of the industry in practicing sustainable forestry and using Best Management Practices and sensitivity to protect the forest, land, water, wildlife and aesthetic resources.
- * Certification is for the industry - to build its image, respect and support among the public as a necessary, valuable and responsible industry.

Who should be certified?

- * NYLT's Trained Logger Certification (TLC) was **designed for the individual** (not the company). Companies can promote the fact that they employ "NYLT-TLC Certified Loggers."
 - * Certification is tracked by the individual's personal Social Security number
 - * Skills and certification are intended to move with the worker
- * Anyone working in the woods as a feller, skidder operator or log bucker at a landing is eligible and should be certified.
- * Supervisors and employers of harvesters are also eligible and should receive training and certification
 - * Often these people are working in the woods themselves
 - * Much of the course work is applicable to business owners and managers
- * Foresters are eligible and encouraged to seek this training and certification also.

Answers to Commonly Asked Questions:

How do I get my logging business certified?

At this time, we have no provision for certifying "businesses." Firms may promote themselves as using "NYLT-TLC Certified Loggers," or for being run by certified loggers, but there are no "certified firms or businesses."

What about full mechanized logging operations (feller-bunchers, forwarders, etc.)?

If the operators use chainsaws at all, either in the woods or at the landing, they would benefit from the chainsaw training. The Forest Ecology & Silviculture and BMP course is applicable to any type of operation. First Aid and CPR should be given and apply to all. We hope to incorporate a "mechanized equipment operation and safety" course in the future as a continuing education/recertification credit option.

Does the course I took in....?.....apply for credit toward NYLT - TLC?

Often, the answer will be yes. We are looking toward reciprocity with other states as well and will accept those other training programs that cover NYLT's core topics upon review by the Curriculum Committee. At this time, requests for credits to be accepted are reviewed by the Curriculum Committee on a case by case basis. As we approve certain courses, they will be listed with NYLT as "pre-approved" and won't need individual review in the future. If you have a course in mind or one that you would like to take for credit, contact the NYLT office c/o Empire State Forest Products Association to get the course accredited.

How long is certification good for?

Certification is valid for three years, with provision for recertification.

What do I need to do to retain certification?

Keep your First Aid and CPR cards current and take (at least) three (3) credits of accredited training courses over the three (3) year period following your initial certification.

*NYLT has a list of pre-approved continuing education/recertification credits. Any requests for accreditation will be sent to the Curriculum Committee for approval. Currently any pre-approved course which is at least four (4) hours long counts for one (1) credit. Any pre-approved course which is 2-4 hours long counts for one - half (½) credit.

Policies and procedures may be updated as needed. These questions and policies are valid as of April, 1997. For more information, contact NYLT c/o Empire State Forest Products Association, 123 State Street, Albany, NY 12207, (518) 463-1297.

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After years of on-the-job experience, many of New York's loggers are going "back to school" to learn more about their trade. In an effort to provide New York forest owners and rural communities with the benefits of knowledgeable and capable forest management and practices, a group of loggers voluntarily developed the Trained Logger Certification (TLC) program.

More than 150 loggers have completed the three-part TLC program and are committed to keeping their skills honed and increasing their knowledge about logging productivity and forest ecosystems. The program requires ongoing training to maintain certification. These loggers are among the most skilled and professional members of a centuries-old business that is a mainstay throughout much of rural New York.

"TLC" FOR NEW YORK'S FORESTS...

By Peter J. Smallidge, Kevin S. King and Laurel R. Gailor



After years of on-the-job experience, many of New York's loggers are going "back to school" to learn more about their trade.

Traditionally, New York loggers have received on-the-job training through their employers or coworkers. While this approach has sufficed for some training needs, several loggers from across the state recognized the usefulness of promoting professionalism in the field. The loggers knew firsthand the hazards of working in the woods, the need to work efficiently, and the necessity of being environmentally aware of forest resources we all use.

This group initiated the educational program in 1989 based on providing a formalized training and recognition program that would make limited training resources go further. In 1994, New York Logger Training Inc. was organized to coordinate the delivery of educational resources to timber harvesters. It aimed at improving their technical skills and fostering the implementation of environmentally sound harvesting practices. The goal of the training and certification program is increased productivity for loggers, increased use of best management practices and a safer work environment. The program should lead to increased profits for loggers and forest owners while bettering the quality and value of forested lands.

Forest product companies and businesses employ more than 60,000 persons with an annual payroll in excess of \$1.6 billion. The industry provides \$4 billion to New York's gross economic output. This diverse industry includes landowners, timber harvesters, sawmills, furniture manufacturers, baseball bat makers, pulp and paper companies.

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The TLC program consists of three, one-day core components: Standard adult first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR); environmental concerns, and chain saw operation, safety and productivity.

The continuing education segment of Trained Logger Certification requires loggers to maintain their first aid and CPR certification and take additional approved courses during a three-year period on topics ranging from small business management, to sustainable forestry, to advanced chain saw safety. Several major forestry companies and an increasing number of smaller forest owners require that the loggers they deal with participate in the TLC training. Others provide significant incentives for employee participation in the program by underwriting training costs.

The training on environmental concerns has the greatest direct impact on forest owners and resources. It addresses the management practices that are neces-



Certification program helps loggers improve safety, productivity and become better stewards.



The timber industry in New York State employs more than 60,000 persons and contributes \$4 billion annually to New York's economy.

sary and appropriate for ensuring the continued productivity and vigor of forests. It emphasizes how the components of forest ecosystems interact. This aspect of the training helps improve the working relationship between loggers and foresters. Loggers better understand how and why certain trees are selected for a harvest and why others remain. Correct choices help ensure the long-term growth, regeneration and health of the forest. Loggers become more knowledgeable about how forest management practices help maintain water quality and logging aesthetics, and why different practices are used in different situations.

The chain saw training course includes a hands-on session to explain the relationship between safety and productivity. Accredited workshops are offered by certified professional logging instructors who themselves have completed rigorous training. The chain saw training benefits forest owners as well as loggers. It has reduced insurance costs for companies and logging supervisors, reduced damage to the trees left standing after logging, and helped reassure landowners about the safety of those working in their woods.

The first aid and CPR lessons are given through the American Red Cross or other local providers and exceed the requirements of the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Topics include: cardiac arrest, strains and sprains, transport of injured people, treatment of shock, burns and other first aid situations.

The TLC program is gathering momentum among loggers throughout New York. In addition to those who have completed initial certification, more than 200 individuals have completed two of the three components, and another 1,000 loggers are currently participating in the training program.

After a recent forest ecology and silviculture workshop in Warren County, participants reported that the sessions were highly useful. Topics included the importance of aesthetics, skills for interacting with the public, and an improved understanding of the ecology of forested wetlands and watersheds. The Warren County sessions have drawn loggers from throughout the Adirondacks, ranging from new hires to loggers who have worked the woods for more than four decades.

The TLC program benefits loggers, forest owners and many rural communities of New York. The program's strength is that it is a cooperative effort supported by timber harvesters, the forest industry, government and academia.

For more information about New York Logger Training Inc. and the Trained Logger Certification Program, contact Muriel D. Karp at the Empire State Forest Products Association at (518) 463-1297.

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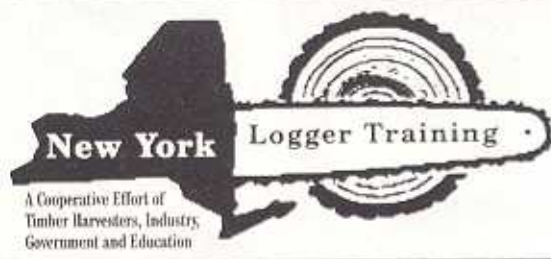
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New York Forest products enhance our lives in many ways. From fine furniture to recreational products—they all begin as New York trees.

For more information

Land owners interested in forestry education programs should contact their county Cornell Cooperative Extension office. "A Guide to Logging Aesthetics: Practical Tips for Loggers, Foresters and Landowners" is available from those offices for \$6 (publication number 123NRAES60) or look for it on the Web at:

www.cce.cornell.edu/publications/naturalresources.html.



New York Logger Training, Inc. . . .

Would like to thank the following businesses, companies and organizations that have truly made this a cooperative effort of public and private interests.

A.D. Bowman & Son Lumber Co. ❖ Adirondack North Country Association ❖ American Pulpwood Association ❖ Baillie Lumber Company ❖ G. Robert Baker Logging ❖ B & B Lumber Company ❖ Blue Ox Logging ❖ Catskills Forest Association ❖ Champion International ❖ Coastal Lumber Company ❖ Cornell Cooperative Extension ❖ Craig Jochum Logging ❖ Department of Environmental Conservation-Utilization and Marketing ❖ Domtar Industries ❖ Finch, Pruyn & Company ❖ Fitzpatrick & Weller, Forecon, Inc. ❖ Herr's Logging ❖ International Paper Company ❖ J & J Log & Lumber ❖ Jasek Brothers ❖ KC Canary Equipment ❖ Lumac Company ❖ Lyonsdale Energy ❖ Lyons Sawmill & Logging Equipment ❖ Mallery Lumber ❖ New York City Department of Environmental Protection ❖ New York Lumbermen's Trust Fund ❖ New York Sustainable Forestry Initiative ❖ New York State Woodsmen's Field Days ❖ New York State Department of Economic Development ❖ Norboard Industries ❖ Northeast Timber Services ❖ Northeastern Loggers' Association ❖ Parmelee Forest Products ❖ Paul Smith's College ❖ Pomeroy Lumber Company ❖ Potter Lumber Company ❖ Procter & Gamble ❖ Regan Brothers, Ltd. ❖ Rutland Plywood Corporation ❖ Schaefer Logging ❖ Seaway Timber Harvesting ❖ Southern Adirondack VoTech Center ❖ State University of New York-College of Environmental Science & Forestry ❖ Tipple Logging & Lumber ❖ Trathen Logging Company, Inc. ❖ Ward Lumber Company ❖ Watershed Agricultural Council ❖ W. J. Cox Associates, Inc.

And, the countless other individuals who have donated time and effort in support of the mission and goals of New York Logger Training, Inc.