



The Cutting Edge & Logger's Voice

2 for 1 is always a great deal

Exciting times are ahead! PLC and TCNEF have always been a great deal. For more than 15 years PLC has been a voice for loggers, increased professionalism in the industry and helped logging business thrive. Always forwarding thinking, in 2003, PLC established the Trust to Conserve Northeast Forestlands continuing that vision.

PLC continued to drive the profession into a new century and the Trust established its role ensuring logger's enhanced the health of working forest ecosystems through accountability.

With this said, the Board realized that the organizations have grown into two distinct entities with the volume of work more than doubling. Tom Cushman, President, explained, "the Trust itself has become multi-faceted with Master

Logger Certification, Chain of Custody and FSC. While PLC's focus is on the logger's business development, legislative issues and being our voice within the industry and beyond."

January 1st the Board made it official. The PLC and Trust would branch out as separate organizations working in partnership, each with its own Executive Director. Tom continued, "with Sandy Brawers' retirement last year, it was the right time to make this happen."

The Board has selected two outstanding individuals to lead into the next stage for PLC and TCNEF. Michael Beardsley will serve as PLC Executive Director and Elizabeth Postlewaite for TCNEF.

Both directors bring a wealth of energy and enthusiasm to their new roles.

For 25 years Beth has been

a licensed forester and an educator. Her family has been involved in the forest industry as arborist, loggers and foresters in Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts.

Mike comes from a family steeped in Maine's logging history on the banks of the Union River in Ellsworth dating back to 1865.

Brian Souers, President of Treeline, Inc. and Board Member served on the selection committee, stated, "The committee was pleased with the high number of qualified applicants. The interview process was lengthy and in depth.

There is no question that we found what we were looking for in both Mike and Beth. We are excited about what they bring to the organizations and to the future!"

Thank you is an understatement...

As most of you know, a long time Executive Director, Sandra E. Brawders retired last year. Tom Cushman, President of PLC of Maine cited the extensive accomplishments made during her service, Tom said, "her uncanny ability to see into the future resulted in the Maine log-

gers creating the first in the world, Northeast Master Logger Certification program.

Doing it before it was needed was tricky, however Sandy has a knack for planning for the unexpected, and in doing so, she has helped us influence the future."

Tom continued, "Her leadership allowed us loggers to keep focused firmly on production, the weather, the environment, equipment, our employee's safety and the immediate day to day of business."

Thank you to Sandy for her dedication to PLC, the Trust and our industry.

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See you at the EXPO!

Booth #319

Please stop by & say hello!

Elizabeth Postlewaite The Trust to Conserve Northeast Forestlands

It is my pleasure to take this opportunity to say hello as the new executive director of The Trust to Conserve Northeast Forestlands (TCNEF). I do look forward to meeting and talking with you over the next few months. In this position I will be overseeing our Northeast Master Logger Program (NEMLC), SmartLogging certification, as well as both the FSC Group Forest Management and Chain of Custody certificates. There is much to be prepared for.

Audits and Reviews: This year we will be going through our five-year review for our Smart Logging and FSC Group Forest Management certifications. This is an extensive review process, beginning in the next couple of months, will require random visits of our members and a review of our records. These random visits

are scheduled no more than 48 hours prior to the visit. I thank you in advance for your cooperation in our review process.

Certification: NEMLC certification for Cohort 8 is wrapping up. Cohort 7 and Cohort 8 participants be watching in the mail for the announcement of your certification ceremony.

Our next Cohort "9" is being put together. We have received several applications and those companies will be beginning their interview process soon.

Recertification: We have begun to prepare for this summer's NEMLC recertification of Massachusetts Cohort A, Massachusetts Cohort B, Vermont Cohort and Maine Cohort 5.

I have enjoyed these first few weeks here

at the Trust. As you can see, it is a busy place with many things going on to meet your needs and to maintain the various certifications. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. or just to say hello.

Sincerely,

Beth



Michael Beardsley Professional Logging Contractors of Maine

Greetings from the PLC of Maine! I'm happy to take this opportunity to say "Hi" as your new PLC Executive Director. I look forward to meeting and working with you to raise the logger's voice in Augusta and Washington, D.C. I'll also be keeping you abreast of upcoming legislative developments that could impact the logging business.

We're committed to frequent communi-

cation with our members, so please take a moment to complete and return the enclosed contact information post card and drop it in the mail, return postage has already been taken care of. In addition, we have begun the process of updating the PLC website (www.maine-loggers.com) with current news stories, helpful links, and our contact information.

Remember...we are here to serve you. Please let us know how we can help –

feel free to call me 688-8195 or send me an email mbeardsley@mainelogs.com.

I look forward to meeting you soon.

Mike



IMPACT—Your Legislative Update

IMPACT in this format will touch briefly on areas of legislative interest. For detailed status or updates visit the PLC website (www.maine-loggers.com) under the News tab.

LD 1552 and LD 1545 – Bonded Labor Legislation —These two bills have worked their way thru the legislature. They prohibit the use of bonded laborers and impose tax penalties on land owners who use bonds. LD 1552 – passed both houses and now goes to the Governor. Indications are that the Governor will sign the bill, meaning the bill will become law 90 days after the final adjourn-

ment of the legislative session.

LD 1545 – which increases the fines for non-compliance, has not yet come before either house but is expected to before the session ends.

BCAP Comments—PLC has provided comment to the USDA regarding proposed rule changes in the reauthorization of BCAP. There is still time for members to email or fax comments. A copy of our comments is on the *website under News*. **Comments must be received by April 9, 2010 at 4:30 PM** fax to: 202-720-4619 or email to: cepdmil@wdc.usda.gov

Increased Truck Weight Limits—As you know the truck weight limits on I-95 have been increased for one year on a pilot basis. Congressman Michaud is still seeking positive stories and comments on benefits of the pilot from citizens and businesses in an effort to make the change permanent. PLC has made a comment but additional comments are encouraged. Additionally, we would like to remind members, as always, to continue operating in a safe and courteous manner on the highways during this pilot program.

Safety First!

Safety First is no joke, from protecting your most valuable asset—your employees, SmartLogging audits, or the bottom line dollars saved through the PLC/ Acadia Dividend Program, *remember...safety starts with you!*

The Safety First! Section will be used to highlight Corrective Action Requests (CARs), provide safety tips and areas of concern.

PLEASE contact us if you are interested in serving on PLC's Safety Board. As an organization that's focused on safety for all our members, we want to include you in our Safety Committee. Please call Mike at 688-8195 to get involved.



Corrective Action Request

Although we have always performed well relative to the safety standard – our auditor really drove a point home – that even if it's something we're used to seeing - if it looks dangerous, it *is* dangerous. And there has to be a better way to do it.

Logging operations must have written harvest plans on site. Each harvesting operator should have at hand a map or written directions guiding the harvest he/she is conducting.

A written harvest plan is required by the SmartLogging standard even if not required

by the landowner. Ask the landowner, contractor or forester on the job to supply you with that documentation. A written harvest plan must be prepared for all harvest operations.

To assist loggers with corrective action requests, TCNEF created the "Harvest Integrity System" (HIS Template). This can be used as drafted or as a model for harvest planning, including pre- and post- checklists. All members have been mailed a copy of the HIS. If you would like a copy it can be found on our website or mailed to you.

This template meets all SmartWood SmartLogging requirements. The members who did not have these in the past now utilize this format. In some instances the member's existing plans more than adequately met the standard.

Do not be outside of a vehicle while wood is being loaded. At one point a driver was actually on the trailer while it was being loaded. He also worked between the trailer and the forwarder while it was loading the trailer, and he moved underneath a log as it was being loaded.

Log Loading—Are you meeting OSHA Standards?

Did you know, we have a very different way of loading and transporting here than anywhere else in the county? Anywhere else a "log truck" is not a flatbed and

doesn't require people at the landing outside of the vehicles. OSHA regulations require loading practices that do not involve people on the landing, outside the cab of a truck or vehicle.

A good place to start with rethinking loading on your landings are these three actions:

- Establish eye contact and a designated "ready" signal between mobile machinery operators and truck drivers working together to load or unload a truck.
- Conduct regular safety training and retraining for hazardous work environments.
- Conduct a site hazard assessment, which should include a documented job safety analysis and disciplinary process.

Check out our websites for safety tips and news. We would love to hear your Safety First stories, suggestions and tips. Give us a call or email via our websites.

www.maine-loggers.com

www.tcnef.org

www.masterloggercertification.com



Acadia expanding its commitment to Loggers



Acadia Insurance*, which has been committed to the logging business in northern New England since 1992, has announced that it is expanding its Timber Harvesters' Program into the State of New York.

The program offers a single company approach designed to provide coverage for log and chip contractors and their subcontractors including:

- Workers Compensation
- General Liability
- Automobile
- Property and Equipment

In addition to standard coverage offered by other insurance carriers, Acadia's

program includes special coverage extensions specific to the logging industry as well as the availability of seasonal payment plans that allow for flexible billing.

The Timber Harvesters' Program was developed by people who understand the logging business and are committed to offering a well-rounded, affordable approach to the insurance needs of the customers, including local underwriting, claims, premium audit and loss control services.

Acadia has fostered a strong partnership with loggers and their agents in northern New England and is endorsed by the Professional Logging Contractors of Maine. It now looks forward to developing the same kinds of relationships in New York.

The program is available through all independent agents who represent Acadia. To locate a local agent, go to www.acadiainsurance.com

Acadia Insurance is rated A+ (Superior) by A.M. Best and is a subsidiary of W. R. Berkley Corporation (NYSE:WRB), one of the nation's premier commercial lines property casualty insurance providers, and one of the 50 largest diversified financial companies in the United States.

**Insurance policies may be offered by one or more of the following affiliated insurance companies: Acadia Insurance Company, Continental Western Insurance Company, Firemen's Insurance Company of Washington, D.C. and Union Insurance Company.*

Industry Intel—What's up in logging today—

New York—AMERICAN FOREST & PAPER ASSOCIATION (AF&PA) released its 50th Annual Survey of Paper, Paperboard, and Pulp Capacity. Reporting that the U.S. paper and paperboard capacity declined 2.5 percent in 2009 to 93.9 million tons. Paper and paperboard production is rebounding from the recession-induced lows reached in early 2009. The Survey reports total paper and paperboard capacity is expected to decline 3.4% in 2010 and then remain essentially stable in 2011 and 2012.

Augusta—Elizabeth Townsend was sworn in as Maine Conservation Commissioner on March 23rd. She served as acting commissioner since Patrick McGowan vacated the spot in January to run for governor. Before joining the Department, Townsend was executive director of the Maine League of Conservation Voters and the Maine Conservation Voters Education Fund. She served previously as a state representative.

Web & Workshops

WHAT'S UP ON THE WEB?

Maine Logger Education Alliance (MLEA) Website is up and running—MLEA decided to create the site to serve as a source of information regarding various levels of training that exists, new training that will develop and as a portal to other sources of information, training and technology that will help Maine's logging industry prosper in the 21st century. Take a look...

www.maineloggereducation.org/

WORKSHOPS

Harvester & Logging Heavy Truck Driver Training—Acadia Insurance will present two programs for those insured under Acadia's programs. April 16th in Skowhegan (Madison Elks Lodge) and April 30th in South Lincoln (Knights of Columbus, Rte 2/6) both will begin at 8am and last about 3 hours. Topics will include the 1-year trial allowing > 80,000 loads north of Augusta on the Maine Interstate System, new DOT regulations, avoiding distracted driving, pre- & post-loading & trip inspections, what you need to know to protect your CDL & tips to driving appropriately for conditions. Presenter, Randy DeVault, has over 2,000,000 miles of safe driving experience and was the ATA's 2006 national driver champion. Register by calling Acadia at 800-773-4300.



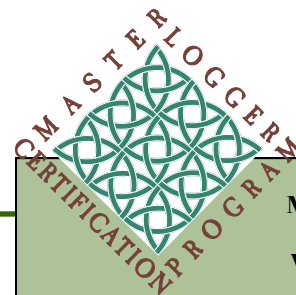
KENNEBEC WOODLANDS PARTNERSHIP—

The Maine Forest Service and Kennebec Land Trust launched a regional forestland conservation initiative, the Kennebec Woodland Partnership.

The program will draw on a diverse pool of foresters, small woodlot owners, loggers, biologists, economists, municipal planners and community members to craft a collaborative vision for keeping forest as forest in Kennebec County. The partnership will provide an opportunity to exchange information through the network. It will culminate in a three-day workshop October 21-23, 2010. Logger's with interest in Kennebec County will want to have a voice in the ongoing dialogue. Visit the website www.tkl.org or contact Morten Moesswilde, MFS (207) 441-2895 or Theresa Kerchner, Kennebec Land Trust, (207)377-2848.

MAINE MUNICIPALITIES LOOK FOR ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES—

The new wood-pellet boiler at the City of Gardiner's Public Works garage is a showcase for the quality and reliability of alternative energy, according to boosters of the technology. Long used to heat homes and businesses in Europe, Gardiner is the first municipality in Maine to use a wood-pellet boiler system. With energy costs rising many stress the benefits, one being refueling the forest economy and keeping the profits in Maine. The project cost \$75,000, far more than a simple replacement of the old oil-fired system, officials said. But as oil becomes more expensive, the payback could be reached within a decade. (Source: *Maine Townsman*, March 2010 by Liz Chapman Mockler)



Master Logger & TCNEF WEBSITES

We are updating our websites which advertises to interested visitors that you are a **Master Logger**

Please make sure to complete the enclosed card so we may have your current information on our websites!

GPS & GIS Mapping for Loggers—The Maine Forest Service in cooperation with Maine's Sustainable Forestry Initiative will hold a GPS & GIS Mapping workshop for loggers. GPS (Global Positioning System) technology is a tool that loggers can use to navigate forestland, as well as collect GPS data related to boundary lines, access routes, forest stand types, and riparian zones. This technology can be used to improve harvest layout and planning. During the workshop learn GPS basics and get hands on experience, collecting waypoints, tracts, and measuring acreage on the ground, download GPS data collected in the field and view the data. GPS will be provided for use during the workshop. During the session learn how to create electronic maps, use the GIS system to take area and distance measurements, obtain aerial photos, topographic maps, and other data that can be viewed in a GIS.

Date & Time: Wed., April 14th 9 am - 4 pm
Location: Domtar's Admin. Bldg., 1st Floor Conference Room (Baileysville)
Cost: \$10
(Coffee & Donuts and Lunch provided)

Registration is required contact Sue McCarthy at 622-9288 extension 10 or email msmccarthy@maineforest.org

This workshop is approved for CLP contact credits, but non CLP certified loggers

are welcome. The workshop will be limited to 25 participants.

Equipment Maintenance & Repair—The Forest Resources Association (FRA) will provide workshops & roundtables on Chipper Maintenance/Chip Quality, Trouble Shooting Electrical Systems, Engine Efficiency Tips and Tire Maintenance. There will be two sessions the first held in Brewer, ME — Thurs., April 8, 8 am— 3pm and the second in Berlin, NH —Thurs., April 15, 8 am—3 pm. The workshops and roundtables will deal with timely topics for logging contractors, owner operators and equipment dealers and will provide an opportunity for problem solving and information sharing. The cost is \$40 per person, \$20 for students with valid ID, payable at the door. Please contact Joel Swanton no later than 4/6/10 email: Jswan93426@aol.com, fax 866-437-7252 or phone 207-745-2435.