

THE CUTTING EDGE:
News From Around the Woods for the Progressive Logger
A publication of the Maine Master Logger Certification Program
Katherine Albert, Editor

Important Corrections

- More on **LifeFlight**: In many parts of the Maine woods, satellite phones utilize Canadian towers, and the 1-800 number for LifeFlight will not work. In these areas, you must use the following number: (207)262-2525...add this to your list of emergency numbers.
- The New England Master Logger program includes the following states: Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island
- John Gunn was hired by the Trust to Conserve Northeast Forestlands in May as the **Director of Forest Stewardship and Research**. Sandy Brawders remains the executive director for the Trust.

More On Continuous Improvement

- Thank you to Mike Bouchard, Safety and Project Development Supervisor at Clayton Lake Woodlands, for the above information on the alternative LifeFlight phone number as well as tips on finding temporary bridges and an innovative First Aid program in northern Maine. Several temporary bridges that are left over from a pipeline project in Winslow are available. Contact Peter Lammert of the Maine Forest Service at (207)435-7963 for more information.
- Northern Maine Medical Center (NMMC) provides an excellent service for loggers that may be available through other medical services in Maine as well. This service provides frequent inventorying and updating of First Aid kits to logging companies for the price of materials replaced in the kits. Loggers can simply drop their kits off and pick them up inspected and resupplied. The contents of the kits exceed OSHA 1910.266 Appendix A standards. Contact Lynn Dumond at NMMC for information on how to start a similar program in your area or to utilize NMMC First Aid Kit services.
- Thank you to Peter Robichaud of the Atlantic Master Logger Program for this additional source of truck sized spill kits. They are available directly from Lasec Enterprises out of Truro, NS (www.lasecsorboiklean.com). Testimonials from loggers in the region indicate that the models without wooden handles are preferable. A company out of Woodstock, NB is also in the process of developing a truck-sized product with heavy-construction brightly colored bags. Supply information will be published in "The Cutting Edge" as soon as the product becomes available.

- Peter Robichaud also supplied the following links to more information regarding Canadian standards for water crossings and wildlife habitat protection. Take a look at these for ideas, in addition to Maine's BMPs (http://www.state.me.us/doc/mfs/pubs/pdf/bmp_manual/), on continuous improvement of your own practices: <http://www.gnb.ca/0009/0371/0005/English/index.asp> and www.gov.ns.ca/natr/.
- Thank you to Joel Swanton of IP for updating us with the address of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's web page for Essential Wildlife Habitat, which has been changed to: <http://www.state.me.us/ifw/wildlife/etweb/habitat/eswildlifehab.htm>

Update on Forest Stewardship Council Certification of the Trust

The Trust to Conserve Northeast Forestland (TCNF) is currently pursuing Forest Stewardship Council certification through the SmartWood Program of the Rainforest Alliance. SmartWood is accredited by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) to perform a third party assessment of the environmental, economic, and social performance of a landowner's forest management system and practices against a set of international forestry standards. TCNF is the administrative body that will hold the FSC certificate and have overall responsibility for compliance with the FSC Northeast Regional Standard. The formal administrative relationship will be between TCNF and landowners, with foresters and Master Loggers participating as professional practitioners. The involvement of a Master Logger in the harvest of member properties will help ensure compliance with the FSC Standard and provide a consistency of practice across all properties.

The TCNF certified group is being formed to provide low-cost access to FSC certification for landowners, consulting foresters, and Master Loggers throughout the state of Maine. The FSC Standard is an internationally recognized framework of forest management that acknowledges a commitment to high environmental standards, social responsibility, and economic sustainability. The FSC Standard is appropriate for properties of all sizes. The primary benefit of FSC certification at this time is an assurance to landowners that forest management meets a credible and independent high standard. In the short term, the financial benefits from premiums found in a certified marketplace should be considered a secondary outcome if achieved at all. In fact, increased market share is the most likely economic benefit. However, the number of FSC-certified markets are increasing throughout the region and the creation of the framework for a certified pool at this time will allow Master Loggers to take advantage of markets as they develop.

TCNF will undergo an assessment of its forest management practices under the SmartWood program during the summer of 2005. A team of regional professionals with expertise in fields of forestry, ecology, and sociology conducts the certification assessment and audits. During the audits and assessments, the team selects properties in the certified group to review. They review a sample of landowner management documents and visit a number of properties. Twelve landowners representing about 2,000 acres are being considered for the initial pool. Once TCNF is certified, properties can easily be added to the Trust's pool of landowners. If you are interested in participating in this program or simply learning more about it, please contact John Gunn at 207-966-3031 or RNDRIVER@megalink.net.

New Statewide Rule for Timber Harvesting in Shoreland Areas

Please note the following summary of the new DOC rules for harvesting in shoreland areas:

Notice of Agency Rule-making Adoption

AGENCY: Department of Conservation, Bureau of Forestry

CHAPTER NUMBER AND TITLE: Chapter 21, Statewide standards for timber harvesting and related activities in shoreland areas.

PROVISIONALLY ADOPTED RULE NUMBER:

CONCISE SUMMARY

This rule establishes statewide standards for timber harvesting and related activities in shoreland areas. In general, timber harvesting activities in shoreland areas must protect shoreline integrity and not expose mineral soil that can be washed into water bodies, including nonforested freshwater and coastal wetlands and tidal waters. Timber harvesting and related activities in shoreland areas below the 300 acre drainage point must leave windfirm stands of trees that provide adequate shade. If located in shoreland areas, roads used primarily for timber harvesting and related activities must be constructed and maintained to standards designed to minimize the chance of exposed soil washing into water bodies, including wetlands. Stream crossings must not disrupt the natural flow of water and must not allow sediment into water bodies.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Contingent on 38 MRSA §438-B, sub-§5

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www.masterloggercertification.com You can also visit the web site to see what existing advertisements look like – and be creative with your own!

