

Spring 2017



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THE TRUST TO CONSERVE NORTHEAST FORESTLANDS

The Cutting Edge

Welcome New Master Loggers!

We'd like to take this opportunity to welcome our newest Master Loggers! Seven new logging contractors have completed the certification process. Congratulations to all!



1. **B&D Logging, Inc.** of Carthage, Maine is a whole tree operation in the Western Mountains of the state. B&D has a professional staff of five. They are members of the PLC of Maine. For more information please contact Bo Berry at 207-562-8973.



2. **Dean Young Forestry** of Franklin, Maine is a whole tree and cut-to-length operation located in Downeast Maine. Dean Young Forestry has a professional staff of twenty-four. They are members of the PLC of Maine. For more information contact Dean Young at 207-565-2709.



3. **Grady Forest Products** of Whitefield, Maine is a whole tree operation located in the lower Kennebec River valley. Grady Forest Products has a professional staff of three. For more information contact Steve Grady at 207-549-3170.



4. **H.B. Logging, LLC** of Monroe, New Hampshire is a whole tree chipping operation based in Northern Vermont and New Hampshire. H.B. Logging has a professional staff of five. They are members of the New Hampshire Timber Harvesting Council and the Vermont Forest Products Council. For more information please contact Heath Bunnell at 603-638-4983.

5. **Matt McGary Logging, Inc.** of Merrill, Maine is a service contractor on a large land base in Northern Maine. Matt McGary Logging has a professional staff of three. For more information contact Matt McGary at 207-532-1133.

6. **Thomas Richards and Son, Inc.** of Oxford, Maine is a conventional operation in the Western Foothills of Maine. Thomas Richards and Son has a professional staff of one. Please contact Tom Richards for more information at 207-743-5858.

Total Master Loggers today:
101

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Master Logger
Certification



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Hello Northeast Master Logger Companies!



Hello everyone,

This winter has been another funny one with weather fluctuations and market conditions. I want to let you know that Master Loggers have been very busy with public outreach efforts this winter, through setting

up booths at conferences, to opening up job sites to landowners and the public. If we don't tell our story then who will? I believe this statement is more true than ever in these hard times. It shows resilience and the steadfastness of loggers and the belief that times will get better. I want to let you know that this willingness to open up your jobs is not going unnoticed and you will see some examples of what I am talking about on page 3.

We recently went through our 5 year SMARTLOGGING audit at the beginning of March. The audit went very well. I have not seen the official results yet but I know the visits to the nine logging jobsites were excellent and the results

should make all you proud to be in this group. The auditor had many positive things to say. I want to sincerely thank those who opened up their sites for this audit. Great job!

I hope to see everyone in Bangor soon at the EXPO!



Ted Wright, Executive Director
Northeast Master Logger Program
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IN THE NEWS: Vermont's Lincoln Farm Timber Harvesting



Congratulations to Master Logger Sam Lincoln of Randolph Center, VT on being appointed Vermont's Deputy Commissioner of Forests, Parks & Recreation! Sam is a graduate of Vermont Technical College with a degree in AgriBusiness Management.

Vermont Governor Phil Scott announced the appointment on January 6.

It is important to have experienced loggers in positions like this one to bring the knowledge and interests of our industry to government. We are very proud to have Sam in our Master Logger group!

Annual TCNEF Dinner and Awards Ceremony

May 5

Jeff's Catering in Brewer, Maine

Register at:

masterloggercertification.com

Important Dates

We will be attending the 2017 Northeastern Forest Products Expo May 19-20 at the Cross Insurance Center in Bangor, Maine.

*Master Loggers - please stop by our booth and say hello and receive a FREE Master Logger T-Shirt sponsored by Barry Equipment!



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Inspired by life

Master Logger Outreach: If we don't tell our story, who will?



On February 3, Master Logger Perry Sawyer of Sawyer Logging in Union, CT opened up his job site to Yale forestry students. Outreach to the public and students is so important. If we don't tell our story then who will? Great Job, Perry!



Master Logger GCA Logging of Avon, Maine has been doing a great job representing the Master Logger program during a series of educational walks at the Yankee Woodlot demonstration area in Skowhegan, Maine - a 228 acre parcel of forest and fields owned by the Bureau of Parks and Lands. Aaron Adams of GCA (second from right) led the latest tour Feb. 18 after harvesting had been completed at the site.



Master Logger Derek Madden of Madden Sustainable Forestry Inc. of Milford, ME (at left, shaking hands with a landowner) spent the day of Jan. 11 manning the Master Logger booth at the Small Woodland Owners Association of Maine (SWOAM) Annual Meeting in Augusta, ME. Thanks to Derek for also providing a great video display of harvesting techniques for our booth.



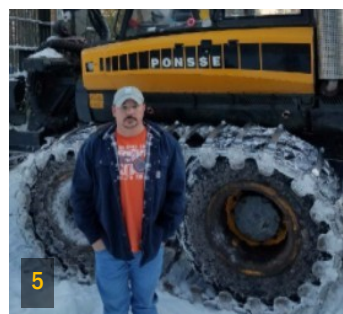
Master Loggers W.C. Tripp Forest Products of Frankfort, ME (left) and Madden Sustainable Forestry Inc. of Milford, ME (right) hosted UMaine forestry students at their job sites Jan. 9 as part of the students' winter camp experience.



DID YOU KNOW:
Master Logger job site signs are available? Email executivedirector@tcnef.org to order some!



New Master Loggers, continued from page 1



7. **Tide Mill Enterprise** of Edmunds, Maine is a cut-to-length operation in Downeast Maine. Tide Mill Enterprise has a professional staff of one. For more information, please contact Bob Bell at 207-733-4425.



Master Logger Spotlight - Kimball Logging & Firewood

PORTLAND, ME - There's a grapple skidder hauling a load along the edge of the tree line this morning, a slasher at work on the landing, and before long an empty pulp truck pulls up ready for a load of logs.

If it weren't for the low hum of rush hour traffic beyond the trees, you'd never know this logging job is in the middle of Maine's largest urban area - a thinning operation in Portland's Evergreen Cemetery woods that has been underway since mid-February and has brought Master Logger company **Kimball Logging & Firewood** of Poland, Maine to work about as close to the geographic center of the city as you can get.

Ron Kimball and his son, Randy, are used to logging wherever jobs take them, but they admit this job is different.

"When people saw us rolling in here with all the equipment on trailers a lot of heads turned," Randy says.

The Kimballs are not here to educate the public about timber harvesting, but there's no doubt the heavy use of the cemetery and woods by urban walkers, joggers, cyclists, and skiers has provided a rare opportunity for city residents to see active logging done right by professionals. Jeff Tarling is the city arborist, forestry and horticulture manager, and he credits the good work by the Kimballs as an important piece of overcoming many residents' worries about logging in an area they use for recreation.

"Anytime you can do a project like this and have the public support it that's good" Tarling says. "It's a great thing to see it done right. Having the right contractor as well as the right PR (public relations) is important."

The Kimballs don't lack for experience. Ron grew up on a dairy farm in Poland and started cutting wood when he was 17. He is 56 now. He bought his first cable skidder when he was 31, and Randy rode with him in the skidder from the time he was a toddler so logging was in his blood from an early age. In 1989 Ron stopped working for others and went out on his

own, and in time Randy went to work with him. Now between the two of them they have a four-man crew with a feller buncher, grapple, slasher, chipper, two trucks, a track dozer and other equipment including Ron's firewood processor as needed.

The crew is efficient and serious about safety and the job, but they find time to give Ron a hard time when he starts talking about retiring to Florida as a cold wind rises and he has to mount the loader with the open seat - it has great air conditioning he says.

Logging is a tough business with long hours and you don't get rich, and there have been many ups and down over the years, so it is not easy to explain on a cold winter day why

he or any other veteran logger is still doing it, Ron says.

"If we weren't stubborn there wouldn't be any of us doing this," Ron says, "You've got to be stubborn, you wouldn't do it if you weren't stubborn, you'd give up."

Like most other Maine loggers, the Kimballs are dealing with a tough market for softwood pulp and low chip prices. Costs to operate keep rising, and the closure of paper mills has been rough, but Ron says in his 39 years in logging there have always been ups and down in the business, and he thinks it may take a while, but new markets for fiber will eventually open up.

In the meantime, he and Randy agree buyers of wood need to keep their prices high enough to afford loggers a living if they want to preserve a professional workforce

to supply timber in the future.

Many logging companies have branched out into construction, road building and other areas to reduce their reliance on the ups and down of wood markets, but the Kimballs are strictly a logging company and plan to stay that way.

"All we do is cut wood, and that's enough." Randy says. But the forestry professionals and landowners that the Kimball's work with will tell you they offer a lot more than just a quality job.

