

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** March 5, 2020  
Vermont Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation

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**New opportunity for Vermont loggers to become Master Logger certified at a reduced cost**

**MONTPELIER, Vt.** - Professional logging contractors in Vermont are being encouraged to take advantage of a unique new opportunity to become Master Logger certified at half the cost through a grant from the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation.

The opportunity coincides with a push to expand the ranks of Vermont Master Loggers that qualify for the state's new Vermont Logger Safety and Workers' Compensation Insurance Program that will reduce their worker's compensation costs.

Increasing the number of Master Loggers in Vermont is rooted in efforts to recognize and support the good work and adherence to best management practices of professional loggers in the state while increasing safety and lowering costs for the industry.

"There has never been a better time to become Master Logger certified in Vermont," Ted Wright, Executive Director of the Trust to Conserve Northeast Forestlands and the Northeast Master Logger Certification Program, said. "Master Logger is a third-party certification, recognizing your good work and professionalism as a logger, that sets the gold standard for the industry, and with this opportunity, Vermont loggers have the chance to achieve it at a reduced rate and then see significant savings on their insurance costs once certified."

The average cost of Master Logger certification is currently \$3000. With the availability of cost share funds from the State of Vermont, the average costs are expected to be \$1500.

Once certified, Vermont Master Loggers can then qualify for the new Vermont Logger Safety and Workers' Compensation Insurance Program—developed collaboratively by the Departments of Financial Regulation, Labor and Forests, Parks and Recreation, with input from logging safety trainers, the National Council on Compensation Insurance, insurance carriers and business owners in the forest economy.

Vermont's workers' compensation insurance system now recognizes logging contractors that are "safety certified," with discounted insurance premiums, when they and their employees have received approved safety training and are verified to have reduced the risk of injury at their jobsites.

The certification process is outlined here: <http://masterloggercertification.com/how-to-get-master-logger-certified/>

For more information on the Master Logger program contact Ted Wright at (207) 688-8195 opt. 2 or [executivedirector@tcnef.org](mailto:executivedirector@tcnef.org). Additional information is also available at <http://masterloggercertification.com>

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# **Northeast Master Logger Certification Program**



**Setting the standard for professionalism in  
the logging industry today**

**[masterloggercertification.com](http://masterloggercertification.com)**



# Certified Loggers Enhancing the Health of Northeast Forests

## Who we are

Northeast Master Logger Certification was created in 2001 by loggers in Maine as the first in the world point-of-harvest certification program, offering third party independent certification of logging companies' harvesting practices. **Today the program covers logging contractor businesses throughout the Northeastern United States.**



The American Loggers Council (ALC) endorsed the Master Logger program in 2004 as a national model and it has since been adopted in 20 states in the U.S. and in three other countries. A major ALC effort to increase the ranks of Master Loggers nationwide began in 2018.



## A cut above the rest

Master Logger Certification is not built on taking classes or attending workshops and training sessions, but on **what you do in the woods every day**. In many cases, those who achieve this certification are already meeting the Master Logger standards and certification is simply a matter of documentation and adherence to a code of ethics.



The mark of responsible forestry

**L.L.Bean**

Northeast Master Logger Certification, 108 Sewall St., PO Box 1036, Augusta, ME 04332

Find us on Facebook! Search for @masterloggercertification.com

## Set yourself apart

- Take pride in being recognized for meeting the most rigorous professional standard in the logging industry today.
- Benefit from the name recognition and quality assurance of the Master Logger brand when dealing with landowners and wood consumers.
- Gain visibility for your business through Master Logger's marketing and publicity efforts on your behalf online, on social media, in advertising, at events, and in the media.
- Master Loggers responsibly harvest 5.5 million tons of wood in the Northeast annually. Be part of a growing and elite group of professionals making a difference in the forests and the industry.



## Value and pride

*"It's been a professional certification that I've been very proud of and that I've continued to maintain. The third-party inspection lends credibility to this program that no other program has. I really think that's the key, not only talking the talk but walking the walk."*



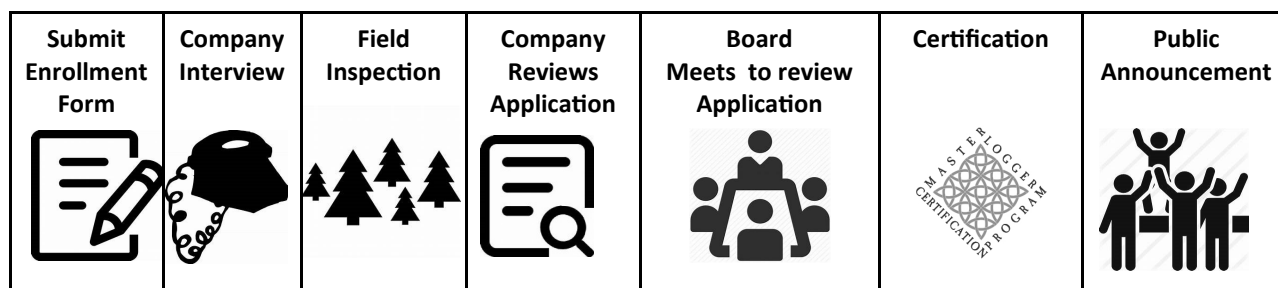
**Master Logger Perry Sawyer, Sawyer Logging, Connecticut**

**Do you have what it takes to be a Master Logger?**

Call (207)-688-8195 opt. 2 or email [executivedirectordirector@tcnef.org](mailto:executivedirectordirector@tcnef.org) to find out.



# Northeast Master Logger Certification - Process



# Northeast Master Logger Certification - Cost

To provide this level of in-woods, relevant, performance based certification there is a cost. Half of the cost of certification is covered by a scholarship from the State of Vermont.

## Covered by the cost:

### Initial Certification:

- Application, personal interview and report
- Field Inspection and report
- Certification Board review
- Announcement and certificate ceremony

### Maintenance of Certification:

- Landowner **marketing** and a online Master Logger directory for landowners.
- Circulation of relevant **information** through newsletters and emails
- Marketing **materials**—flyers, road signs, magnets, stickers and logo use to use to promote your Master Logger business.
- **Promotion** of your business through our website and Facebook
- Third party field **inspections** and ongoing audits (every four years).
- A **Certification Board** to review the sustained quality of new and current Master Loggers

1st Installment <i>Application &amp; Interview</i>	2nd Installment <i>Inspection</i>		Annual Fee <i>1st Year</i>	Annual Fee <i>2nd year &amp; beyond</i>
\$400	\$1100		\$0	\$300– Sole Proprietor \$500 –1-2 Employees \$700 - 3+ Employees



# Northeast Master Logger Certification - Enrollment Form

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Type: Sole Proprietor   Contractor

Operation Type: Conventional   Mechanical   Both

Number of Employees \_\_\_\_\_

Company Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (Office) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Web Site: \_\_\_\_\_

**1st installment amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Check enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Check payable to: Northeast Master Logger Certification

Check here to pay by credit card \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this form and first installment to:**

**Northeast Master Logger Certification**

**PO Box 1036**

**Augusta, ME 04332**

*Once initial payment and enrollment form are received Master Logger Certification will contact you to schedule initial interview.*

\_\_\_\_\_ - Check here if you would like more information on the Master Logger program, but you are not ready to start the process now. You can email us at: [executivedirector@tcnef.org](mailto:executivedirector@tcnef.org) or call 207-688-8195– Option 2

**[www.masterloggercertification.com](http://www.masterloggercertification.com)**

**207-688-8195 opt. 2**