

# MLEP TREELINE

Volume 8, Issue 1

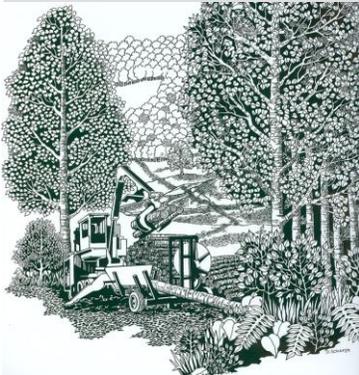
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Spring 2010



## Did You Know:

- On average, North Americans use wood and paper products equivalent to one 100-foot tall tree each year.
- Forest density has increased 40% in the U.S. over the last 50 years.
- In the United States, net forest growth exceeds harvest by 67%.



## Individual Highlights:

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*The Newsletter of the Minnesota Logger Education Program*

## Lovdahl & Sons, LLC Named Minnesota Logger of the Year

The Minnesota Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee (SIC) named Effie's Lovdahl & Sons, LLC, as its 2010 Logger of the Year on April 6, during the Minnesota Logger Education Program conference at Fortune Bay Resort & Casino in Tower, MN.

Lovdahl & Sons Logging, which has operated in Minnesota for three generations, is owned by Brad, Chad and Corey Lovdahl.

"Over the years Lovdahl & Sons Logging has developed a strong reputation for conducting harvesting in a manner that is sensitive to environmental quality and sensitive to land owner objectives," said Tim O'Hara, coordinator of the Minnesota SIC, which is based in Duluth.  
*(Lovdahl Continued On Page 2)*



Photo: Pat Galdonik, MN SFI Implementation Committee Chair, presents the award to Brad, Corey, and Chad Lovdahl of Lovdahl & Sons, LLC.



## Executive Director's Column

I enjoyed seeing and talking with many of you during the spring workshops. Your ideas and comments related to training topics and formats help us continue to improve the workshops we provide. MLEP is committed to providing training that meets the needs and expectations of our members - and the scrutiny of certification programs, customers, policy makers and the public. Stay safe this summer - and keep sharing your ideas for improving MLEP training!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "D. J. ...".



**Lovdahl & Sons LLC** (Continued From Page 1)

"The Lovdahls are highly conscientious loggers who follow sustainable forest management practices during the harvest of timber. They actively promote good forest management by hosting outdoor field trips for elementary students in the Effie/Bigfork area. This is just one of many examples of why the Lovdahl family is such an outstanding representative of the industry, and why they are receiving this award."

"Lovdahl & Sons are committed to safe and environmentally responsible harvesting practices. They regularly attend continuing education workshops which focus on forest management, transportation, safety and business management" said Dave Chura, Executive Director of the Minnesota Logger Education Program.

**Berthiaume Logging Named 2010 National Outstanding Logger**



In March, the Forest Resources Association honored Berthiaume Logging as its 2010 National Outstanding Logger.

A family-run business for three generations, Berthiaume Logging has been a mainstay in the education of students at Cloquet Forestry Center. When students need to see an example of sound forest management, they tour an active Berthiaume Logging site, questioning crew members about practices and performance.

The company has also made itself available to work with researchers at the Cloquet Forestry Center, in one case reducing productivity significantly to conduct a controlled experiment on the impact of spreading, versus removing, logging slash on an active job, to permit the Center to evaluate impacts. Congratulations Berthiaume Logging!

Photo: Dave and Cindy Berthiaume with the National Award plaque.

**Interpreting Financial Statements and Measures**

Like farmers, most logging business owners are also their own chief financial officer. The Center of Farm Financial Management at the University of Minnesota has launched a new "Interpreting Financial Statements and Measures" website which is intended to provide producers the basics of interpreting 4 major financial statements and 21 financial measures. While this online training is designed for farm managers, most of the information is relevant to logging operations as well. Best of all, it's a free resource.

Visit <http://ifsam.cffm.umn.edu> for this helpful resource.

Date	Amount
10/20	\$ 738.97
10/21	526.82
10/22	590.53
10/23	524.21
10/24	362.24
10/25	308.42
10/27	



## The Difference Between an Approved Firewood Vendor and Certified Firewood

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR) is the agency responsible for approving firewood vendors. To be an approved firewood vendor you must meet one of the following 3 conditions:

- The **non-ash** firewood originated in Minnesota and was harvested within 100 miles of the MNDNR administered lands (such as a state park or state forest campground)
- The firewood originated in Minnesota and has been treated in a kiln certified by the MDA. A copy of the documentation verifying certification must be included or;
- The firewood I am selling originated in Minnesota and is 100% debarked according to federal guidelines (removal of 100% of bark and ½ inch of the outer sapwood )

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) is the agency responsible for certifying firewood. For the wood to be certified, it must meet one of the following specifications. (Please contact the MDA via the Arrest the Pest Hotline for further information regarding these treatments):

- Removal the bark and an additional ½ inch of wood
- Heat treatment
- Kiln sterilization or;
- Fumigation

Being an approved vendor does **not** mean your firewood has been certified unless the MDA has issued you a certificate meeting one of the treatment standards outlined above. It is possible to be an approved vendor with the MNDNR without being certified by the MDA. Likewise, it is possible to be certified by the MDA without being an approved firewood vendor with the MNDNR. For more information on being an approved vendor with the MNDNR please visit: [www.dnr.state.mn.us/firewood/index.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/firewood/index.html).

## Don't Forget – Online Training Available!



Do you need to fulfill MLEP credit classes this year? Does your busy schedule interfere with taking time off? The advantages of online training are varied. With online training, you can receive credit without traveling, and take the training whenever you want.

Three Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) online training courses are eligible for MLEP credit. To receive credit, MLEP members need to print out - and mail MLEP - a copy of the certificate of completion that is displayed after completing the end assessment.

- Commercial Motor Vehicle Driver Training
- Hazardous Materials
- How to Prepare for a DOT Audit

Other online classes are available from the MLEP website:

- Biomass Harvesting Guidelines
- Introductory Landview - GIS
- Advanced Landview - GIS

Each of these online training courses qualify for 4 hours of MLEP credit. Please note that an individual can only receive credit once for each course.



## New Temporary Stream, Wetland & Soft Soil Crossings Publication Now Available

This publication provides information on temporary stream, wetland and soft soil crossings in order to minimize impacts to water resources while providing stable access across them. The publication is designed for use by loggers, resource managers and construction contractors. Many of the practices covered in the manual can be constructed from materials available on site, recycled materials, or may be borrowed or rented. Most of the practices are low cost and reusable. MLEP has a limited number of hard-copies of the publication and an electronic CD-ROM version that are available by request. The publication is also available online in a low-resolution and high-resolution PDF format:

- High resolution: [http://www.mnerosion.org/pdfs/streamwetlandsoft\\_low.pdf](http://www.mnerosion.org/pdfs/streamwetlandsoft_low.pdf)
- Low resolution: [http://www.mnerosion.org/pdfs/streamwetlandsoft\\_high.pdf](http://www.mnerosion.org/pdfs/streamwetlandsoft_high.pdf)

Also, don't forget to review your responsibilities under the Wetland Conservation Act and Silvicultural Exemption at <http://www.mlep.org/documents/WCANotes.pdf>

Copies of the Contractor Responsibility and Landowner Statement Form are available at: [http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?t=mqwguldab.0.0.m67htdcab.0&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.bwsr.state.mn.us%2Fwetlands%2Fforms%2FContractor\\_Responsibility.doc&id=preview](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?t=mqwguldab.0.0.m67htdcab.0&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.bwsr.state.mn.us%2Fwetlands%2Fforms%2FContractor_Responsibility.doc&id=preview)

The Minnesota Erosion Control Association prepared the crossings publication with assistance from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, University of Minnesota, Minnesota Department of Transportation, Board of Water and Soil Resources and MLEP.

Copies of these publications and related documents are also available by contacting the MLEP office.

## Truck Weight Legislation Frequently Asked Questions

Greg Hayes, from the Minnesota Statewide Truck-Weight Education Program, has put together a useful list of frequently asked questions and responses regarding 2008/2009 truck weight legislation. The responses are a consensus of information from representatives of the Minnesota Department of Transportation and the Minnesota Department of Public Safety. This a great reference to help you stay safe and compliant out on the road!

You can request a copy of the FAQs by contacting the MLEP office, or view them on the MLEP website at: <http://www.mlep.org/documents/2008-09TruckWeightLegislationFAQ.pdf>

## WeatherTalk

Mark Seeley, University of Minnesota Extension climatologist and meteorologist, publishes the "Minnesota WeatherTalk Newsletter" every Friday. You may have heard Mark's climate and weather observations on Minnesota Public Radio's Morning Edition. The newsletter includes information on weather related terminology, forecasts, state statistics and historical items of note. You may find the information useful when planning out your upcoming timber harvest activities.

Visit <http://www.climate.umn.edu/weathertalk/> for the newsletter.





## MLEP Submits Comments to the MFRC on Minnesota's Forest Management Guidelines

The Minnesota Logger Education Program submitted comments to the Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC) regarding the Timber Harvesting and Forest Management Guidelines. Our comments were based on the direct input we received from loggers and foresters who completed the FMG survey. A total of 225 surveys were completed. Additional input was also collected during two focus group sessions.

Thank you to everyone who completed a survey and participated in the focus groups. Your comments and insight provided essential information!

## MLEP and MMLC Annual Reports

Copies of the MLEP and MMLC CY2009 Annual Reports are now available on the news section of each website, or by contacting our office. The reports provide a detailed summary MLEP and MMLC program services and activities.

### MLEP Membership Summary

MLEP membership is comprised of logging business owners (large and small), wood dealers and associate members. 2009 membership totaled 531 reflecting: 144 small logging business owners, 288 large logging business owners, 6 wood dealers, 64 associates, and 29 new logger applicants.

## When Was The Last Time You Tailgated With Your Crew?

The Midwest ENERGY Association has compiled a great checklist for conducting effective tailgate meetings designed to help ensure the safety of your crew and others. The checklist can be printed from our website at <http://www.mlep.org/documents/tailgatemeetings.pdf> or you can contact the MLEP office.

As you plan and organize your next safety meeting, use the checklist and remember to:

**T**alk about the job

**A**ssign specific tasks

**I**dentify hazards

**L**et the crew know what to expect

**G**enerate alternative plans

**A**llow time to complete the job

**T**hink about the details of routine jobs

**E**valuate crew member's understanding of their responsibilities





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## Upcoming Events

### June

2 – Fluids & Filters– Bemidji  
29 – Truck Weight Compliance – Hallock

### August

16 – Fluids & Filters– Grand Rapids  
31 & Sep. 1 – Forest Mgmt Guidelines– Cloquet

### September

8&9 – Forest Mgmt Guidelines– Rochester  
14 – Intermediate Stand Treatments– Cloquet  
28 – Brake Inspector Qualification– Bemidji  
29 – Brake Inspector Qualification– Brainerd

### October

5 – LogSafe– IFalls (Electric Safety & CPR-1<sup>st</sup> Aid)  
6 – LogSafe– Bemidji (Def. Driving & CPR-1<sup>st</sup> Aid)  
7 – LogSafe– Bemidji (Defensive Driving)  
12 – LogSafe– Cloquet (Fire Safety & CPR-1<sup>st</sup> Aid)  
13 – LogSafe– Cloquet (Fire Safety)  
14 – LogSafe– Brainerd (CPR-1<sup>st</sup> Aid)

### December

7 – LogSafe– Hibbing (Electric Sfty & CPR-1<sup>st</sup> Aid)

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