

MLEP TREELINE

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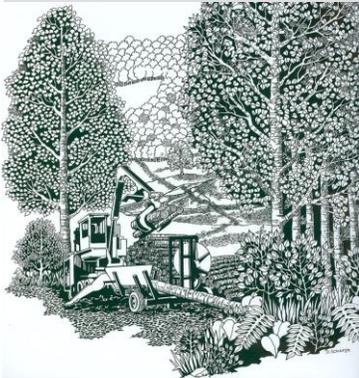
www.mlep.org

Summer 2011



Did You Know:

- A one inch wooden cube contains 5 million wood cells
- On average, each North American uses wood & paper products equivalent to one 100-foot tall tree each year
- In one day, an average tree exhales enough oxygen to keep a family of 4 breathing



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The Newsletter of the Minnesota Logger Education Program

Mike Warren (M&R Chips, Inc.) Named 2011 Minnesota Logger of the Year

The Minnesota Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee (SIC) named Mike Warren of M&R Chips, Inc. as its 2011 Logger of the Year on April 12, during the Minnesota Logger Education Program conference at Northern Lights Convention Center in Walker, MN.

Warren, owner of M&R Chips of Grand Rapids, has operated his business for over 25 years, carrying on a logging tradition established by his father and father-in-law. "Mike and his wife, Tammy, exemplify the high standards set forth by Minnesota's logging profession and the SIC," said Tim O'Hara, coordinator of the Duluth-based Minnesota SIC.

"He combines the traditional with the contemporary - adhering to stringent safety practices, while at the same time employing 21st century technology in his application of global positioning and geographic information technology in the cabs of his harvesting equipment."

M&R Chips adheres to Minnesota's Forest Management Guidelines and Best Management Practices throughout its operations, including clean and aesthetic chipping sites, and enhanced utilization of the forest resources being harvested.

"Warren and the employees of M&R Chips have made a noteworthy contribution to Minnesota's forest management and harvesting activities by setting the bar high on safety, sustainable harvesting activities, outreach to landowners and fellow professionals, and in their collective commitment to good business practices," added Dave Chura, Executive Director of MLEP.



Photo: Minnesota SIC Chair, Mark Reed, presents Mike Warren with the Logger of the Year Award. Also pictured is MLEP Board Member Jim Marshall.



1 New Master Logger and 14 Logging Businesses Recertified

The Minnesota Master Logger Certification Board met on June 30th and approved the certification of 1 new company and the recertification of 14 Minnesota Certified Master Loggers. This brings the total number of Master Loggers in Minnesota to 50. Congratulations to:

New Minnesota Certified Master Logger
Erickson Timber Products, Inc. – Birchdale

Recertifications

Benes Brothers Logging – Hill City
Big H Logging/Gross Brothers - Blackduck
Bruce Kainz Logging – Ely
C.O. Johnson Logging - Blackduck
Dick Walsh Forest Products LLP – Park Rapids
Edin Logging, Inc. – Staples
Fletcher Trucking, Inc. – Brainerd

Hughes Timber, Inc. – Kelliher
Johnson Timber Harvesting, Inc. – Alborn
Nylund Logging – Marcell
Pittack Logging, Inc. – Bovey
S & H Forest Products – Pine City
Scheff Logging & Trucking – Marcell
Stecker Logging – Gilbert



To learn more about the Minnesota Master Logger Certification program, or to apply, visit <http://www.mlep.org/mmlc.htm> or call 218-722-5442.

Rural/Agricultural Leaders Visit Logging Site

Participants from Class VI of the Minnesota Agriculture and Rural Leadership (MARL) program recently visited a pine thinning north of Chisholm.

Ellyn Finch, Timber Sale Administer from the USFS, discussed the management objectives for the site. Next, Mike Rieger, Rieger Logging, talked about his operation and some of the challenges facing loggers today. The highlight of the visit for many in the group was watching Jake MacCarroll (harvester) and Shawn Bunker (forwarder) operate the sale.

Participants were impressed with the high tech equipment and the commitment loggers in Minnesota have made to safe, professional and sustainable timber harvest operations. Hats off to the work MLEP members do managing our forests, providing recreational opportunities and jobs!



Photo: MLEP Member, Mike Rieger, discusses some of the challenges facing the timber industry with MARL program participants.



Tick Diseases on the Rise

Minnesota's three most common tick-borne diseases are all carried by the blacklegged tick, often called the "deer tick." During 2010, cases of these diseases reported to the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) totaled as follows:

- Human anaplasmosis: 720 (more than double the 300-plus cases in recent years).
- Babesiosis: 56, up from 31 in 2009.
- Lyme disease: 1,293, up 21 percent from 2009 and slightly above the 2007 level of 1,239.

"We're seeing a continuing and troubling trend of marked increases in cases of tick-borne diseases in Minnesota," said Dave Neitzel, MDH epidemiologist specializing in tick-borne diseases. "We are particularly concerned about anaplasmosis, with case numbers now rivaling Lyme disease in some areas of the state." In **Aitkin, Beltrami, Carlton, Cass, Crow Wing, and Hubbard counties**, where tick-borne diseases are common, reported human anaplasmosis cases exceeded Lyme disease cases in 2010.

Cases of other serious but less common diseases carried by ticks in Minnesota have also increased in number. Tick-borne illnesses can range from mild to severe. Complications can include swelling of the brain, organ failure, and death.

If you can't avoid tick habitat, use repellent to reduce the risk of disease:

- DEET-based repellents (up to 30 percent DEET), which can be applied to clothing or skin for temporary protection.
- Permethrin-based repellents, which are used to pre-treat fabric and can protect against tick bites for at least two weeks.

Early detection of tick-borne illness is important to prevent severe complications, so seek medical care if you develop an illness suggestive of a tick-borne disease after spending time in tick habitat. Signs and symptoms of the various tick-borne diseases can include, but are not limited to, rash, fever, headache, fatigue, muscle aches, joint pain or swelling, and facial droop.

More information about Minnesota's tick-borne diseases, including signs, symptoms, and prevention, is available on the MDH website at <http://bit.ly/nIFZRE>



(Scale of image is centimeters.)

In this photo, the tick on the left is an adult female blacklegged tick, which is red and dark brown. To her right is an adult male blacklegged tick, which is smaller and dark in color. A nymph blacklegged tick is the second from the right, and a blacklegged tick larva is to the far right.

Adult females and nymphs can transmit infections through their bite.



Is Your Load Secure? Lost Load Caught on Dash Camera

During a vehicle inspection near Moose Lake, MN, a State Trooper's dash camera was rolling as a log truck passed by the intersection of County Line Road 8 and County Road 61 and lost the back half of its load.

This video at <http://bit.ly/r4j80A> is a good reminder of the importance of safely securing your loads. Speed, insufficient securement and the slick conditions of the icy logs likely contributed to this incident. Fortunately, no one was injured - but had a family in a minivan been waiting at the intersection to merge onto the highway, the outcome could have been deadly.

During your next safety meeting, show this video and discuss load securement and other transportation issues with your loaders and drivers. Additional safety information and resources are available at <http://www.mlep.org/trainingSkilledDr.htm>

Don't forget to keep a record of your meeting and discussion using the safety training meeting report form that can be found at the MLEP website at <http://www.mlep.org/documents/trainingmeetingrept.pdf>



CPR Saves Lives



96 minutes of CPR saved a Minnesotan's life this spring. More than 20 people lined up and cycled through performing CPR until an EMS helicopter arrived. The Samaritans efforts paid off - keeping oxygen moving to the brain. Discuss this story with your crew during your safety meeting this month. When providing CPR remember "CAB" - circulation, airway, breathing. CPR provided immediately can double or triple a person's chance of survival. If you don't believe it - just ask Howard!

The complete story can be found at <http://cbsloc.al/nTcT4n>

Online EAB Training Available

Have you heard about emerald ash borer (EAB) but aren't sure how it will impact your work in the woods or what management suggestions are best for landowners? Would you like to know how to identify EAB and its signs and symptoms? Are you worried about how EAB quarantines might impact your business?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, this online training will help you to learn all about EAB, its history, how to ID it and its symptoms, management recommendations, and about quarantine restrictions.

Visit <http://www.mlep.org/trainingonlinemain.htm> to begin the EAB training, or to view other online training opportunities available.



What Can Log Truck Drivers Do To Prepare Themselves for CSA?

Rick Mayer, Forest Resources Association (FRA) Appalachian and Southern Region Manager, has put together a succinct list of items carriers and drivers should do to prepare for/stay in compliance with CSA. Rick points out that the list is by no means complete nor does it guarantee full compliance. That said, it is a great place to start and provides the links you need to get more detailed information.

Carriers and drivers: Check your scores. Go to <http://csa2010.fmcsa.dot.gov>. If you are accessing scores for the first time, you will have to register with a US DOT # and a personal identification (PIN) # which must come from US DOT.

Carriers and drivers: Verify and update your data in the CSA website—especially number of trucks and vehicle miles driven.

Carriers and drivers: Get your paperwork in order, especially the following:

- Proof of participation in drug testing program.
- Documentation of pre and post trip inspections.
- Hours of service recordkeeping.
- Planned and implemented maintenance schedule.
- Unified Carrier Registration. (See <http://www.ucr.in.gov/>).
- Verify physical exam card for CDL is current and valid.
- Ask your insurance company for assistance if necessary.

Drivers: Do not give state troopers and other officers an easy reason to pull you over and initiate a roadside inspection:

- Don't speed!
- Keep your seatbelt fastened.
- Don't haul loads with wood loaded above the standards.
- Secure your loads with properly-rated straps/binders in good condition.
- Consider carrying spare light bulbs in your truck so you can replace a bulb on the spot.

Carriers and drivers: Understand that trucks and trailers need to be kept in good repair and not placed in service if they have “problems.”

Carriers and drivers: Understand that now both of you are accountable to each other for safety issues.

Carriers: Educate your drivers about CSA, and document safety training. If necessary, communicate with your local DOT or traffic officers and ask them to explain or demonstrate what they look for during roadside inspections. See the CSA/FMCSA website (shown in first paragraph above) for more details.

NOTE: These “tips” are by no means a complete listing. Heeding the advice given does not guarantee full compliance with the many requirements for trucking businesses and drivers.

Cliff Shermer Joins MLEP Board

Congratulations to Cliff Shermer (Shermer Logging - Gheen, MN) who has been elected to the MLEP board. Shermer Logging has been a member of MLEP since 1997. Welcome Cliff!





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Logging Professionalism*

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.mlep.org

Upcoming Events

August

18 – Road Building – I Falls
24 – Road Building – Brainerd
25 – Intermediate Stand Treatments – Aitkin

September

15 – Skilled Driver – Bemidji
16 – Skilled Driver – Grand Rapids
28 – Brake Inspector Qualification – Bemidji

October

4 – LogSafe – I Falls (OSHA & CPR-1st Aid)
5 – LogSafe – Bemidji (OSHA & CPR-1st Aid)
6 – Intermediate Stand Treatments – Brimson
18 – LogSafe – (OSHA & CPR-1st Aid)

December

7 – LogSafe – Hibbing (OSHA & CPR-1st Aid)
8 – Online/Computer Training – Cloquet

- 2011 MLEP Board of Directors -

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