



MLEP TREELINE

Volume 12, Issue 1

www.mlep.org

Winter 2014



Did You Know:

- There are 52 tree species native to Minnesota.
- U.S. forests & forest products store enough carbon to offset approx. 10 percent of the nation's CO2 emissions.
- Forest land (all ownership) in Minnesota totals 17.3 million acres



Individual Highlights:

Regional Outstanding Logger	1
2014 Logger of the Year	2
Executive Director's Column	2
Gypsy Moth Quarantine	3-4
Smartphone/Tablet Uses	5
Log A Load Curling Event	5
Timber Margin Manager	5
Forest Road Safety Channel	5
Habitat Incentive Program	6
Pinewood Derby Project	7

The Newsletter of the Minnesota Logger Education Program

John Rolle: Lake States Region Outstanding Logger

The Forest Resources Association's Lake States Region and Stihl Incorporated have recognized John Rolle of Chisholm, Minnesota as the 2013 Regional Outstanding Logger. Stihl Incorporated presented the award to John during the Lake States Region Awards ceremony in Duluth, Minnesota on October 30. Rolle now becomes a nominee for FRA's National Outstanding Logger recognition.

John Rolle Logging has developed a strong reputation for conducting harvesting operations in a manner that is sensitive to both environmental quality and to landowner objectives. The fact that the company has been in business for over 30 years is a testament to John's commitment to professionalism in all aspects of the job.

Congratulations John and Mary!



Left photo: FRA Lake States Chair Jon Lamy (at right) presents 2013 Outstanding Logger Award to John Rolle and his wife Mary.

Right photo: Stihl Representative Rodney Mueller (at left) presents John Rolle with a new chainsaw and a cash prize for becoming the 2013 Lake States Regional Outstanding Logger.



Nominate an Outstanding Logger Today!

The Minnesota SFI® Implementation Committee is now accepting nominations for the 2014 Logger of the Year Award. We encourage you to nominate an exceptional logger today. The winning logger will receive a \$500 cash award and "2014 Logger of the Year" plaque.

Nominations are due March 10, 2014. The winner will be notified in April and the award will be presented at the MLEP Logger Conferences.

The 2013 (John Rolle Logging, Inc.), 2012 (Erickson Timber Products, Inc.), 2011 (M & R Chips, Inc.), 2009 (Berthiaume Logging LLC) and 2008 (Pittack Logging, Inc.) winners went on to win the Forest Resources Association Regional Logger of the Year award!

This is a great way to recognize the work of environmentally responsible, safe, professional loggers in Minnesota. Nomination forms can be found here: <http://www.mlep.org/documents/2014loynomform.pdf>

MN SFI Implementation Committee Receives 4th Achievement Award at SFI Annual Conference

The Minnesota SFI Implementation Committee was recognized with a 4th Achievement Award for mobilizing volunteers to connect sustainable forestry to an enduring Boy Scouts of America tradition through the "Trees to Track" project (read more about the project on page 5 of this newsletter).

This unique partnership created derby car race kits certified to the SFI Chain of Custody Standard and sustainably harvested. More than 2,500 kits will be donated by the Minnesota SFI Implementation Committee to local scouts, who will be encouraged next spring to build and design their own wooden cars with a sustainability theme.

The committee also organized a tree planting project with 400 maple trees at the Scouts' "Camp Wilderness." The trees will ultimately be tapped for Boy Scout maple syrup.

Executive Director's Column

While it may seem like this winter will never end, spring breakup will soon be here and we've been busy putting together this year's training schedule, workshop topics and conference breakout sessions. Look for a training brochure to arrive in your mailbox soon or check out all the options on our website: www.mlep.org.

This unusually cold weather we have been experiencing is hard on equipment and your body. When you work in a cold environment, you may be at risk of cold stress. Keep an eye out for the symptoms of cold stress. They include: shivering, fatigue, loss of coordination, confusion and disorientation, numbness, tingling or arching. OSHA has a cold stress guide that includes more information: <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/emergencypreparedness/guides/cold.html>. It's a good topic of conversation for you and your crew to have during your next safety meeting. Stay safe and warm - I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming MLEP workshops and conferences!



Gypsy Moth Quarantine

What Loggers Operating in Lake & Cook Counties Need to Know

The gypsy moth is one of America's most destructive tree pests. It is an insect that is not native to the United States, and has been destroying forests throughout the U.S. since it was first accidentally released in the late 1800s. The state of Minnesota has been tracking the federally regulated gypsy moth spread since 1973 as it began to move westward from New England into Minnesota. In 2006, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) began treating areas along the North Shore to prevent and slow the growth of gypsy moth populations. In 2013, the MDA captured a record 71,258 gypsy moths; 90% were caught in Lake and Cook counties. A working group comprised of state and federal partners set specific criteria to help the Commissioner of Agriculture determine when a quarantine would be necessary. Using trapping data, positive confirmation of a reproducing moth population, and scientific evidence of a potential for spread, that interagency group recommended Commissioner Dave Frederickson propose a quarantine for Lake and Cook counties in northeastern Minnesota. Minnesota will be the 21st state to be completely or partially quarantined for this invasive species.

Since we know there is an established gypsy moth population in northeastern Minnesota, a proposed quarantine in Lake and Cook counties will help limit the spread of gypsy moth by humans. It will protect uninfested forests to the south and west. Specific to the forest products industry, movement of bark, pulp, firewood, saw logs and Christmas trees must be inspected and certified as gypsy moth-free before moving from the quarantined counties to a non-quarantined area.

A compliance agreement will allow these federally regulated articles to move out of a quarantine area and be received in non-quarantine areas. This will be done by defining how they will be handled to mitigate the spread of gypsy moth before these items move, as they move and when they are received. Compliance agreements are documents prepared and agreed to by the MDA and any company, city, county, agency, or organization interested in moving or receiving the regulated article.

To do this efficiently, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA), in conjunction with partner agencies, will use existing tracking mechanisms to audit the movement of pulpwood. MDA will train loggers to do inspections and upon completion of the training, loggers will be issued a compliance agreement and a corresponding identification number. That id number will be added to load tickets to allow movement of pulpwood to non-quarantine areas. On arrival, receiving mills will collect this information, as they now do, and pass it and the loggers ID number on to MDA.

The movement of saw logs will require more hands on work by loggers and shippers. For these products a self-inspection of logs will be required. This is done with the "laid out" method which involves individual inspection of each log by the logger or shipper and removal of any gypsy moth life form. That inspection along with documentation the logger or shipper creates and which must accompany the shipment to the receiving location, is documented on a federal form know as an "accurate statement". These documents will allow movement out of the quarantine to non-quarantine areas both within and out of Minnesota.

Contracted haulers are responsible for knowing if they are transporting regulated articles, properly timing the transport, and maintaining proper documentation with each load. The extent of their training will be determined by what they are hauling, but a compliance agreement is not necessary.

MDA will begin this training and certification for loggers and non-contract haulers with an initial session held in conjunction with MLEP Logger Conference held on April 15, in Tower, MN.

(Quarantine Continued on Page 4)



Gypsy Moth Quarantine *(Continued from Page 3)*

Steps to Compliance

Logger (Shipper) Compliance

- Sign a Compliance Agreement for intrastate (or interstate) shipment of pulpwood, logs, poles, bark, or bark products
- Attend MDA (or PPQ) training (Dates/Locations TBA)
- Submit inspector application after training
- Receive inspector card and ID number
- Timber shipment
- Stage cut timber 100' from host vegetation (July-September)
- Complete Accurate Statement (logs) or Limited Permit (pulpwood)
- Submit Accurate Statement (logs) or Limited Permit (pulpwood) electronically to MDA (may be done at mill)
- Send original document with the load
- Keep records for 3 years

Hauler Compliance

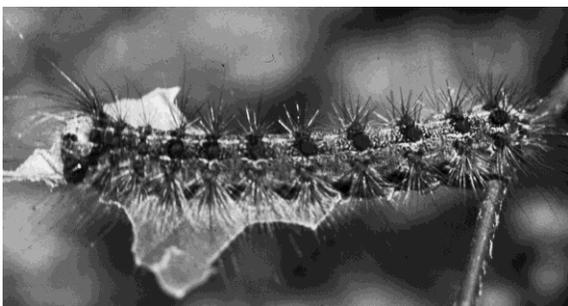
- Ensure that appropriate documentation accompanies each load.
- Attend MDA training (optional)

Mill (Receiver) Compliance

- Sign a Compliance Agreement to receive pulpwood/logs from the quarantine
- Submit Standard Operating Procedures to MDA for approval
- Attend MDA training
- Accepting quarantined pulpwood/logs
- Unload quarantined materials into a separate area 100' from host vegetation
- Process quarantined materials within 5 days (May-June)
- Practice sanitation procedures
- Submit load ticket data electronically to MDA
- Keep records for 3 years

For more information and questions, please contact:

Lucia Hunt
MN Dept. of Agriculture
(651) 201-6329
Gypsy.moth@state.mn.us



Far left: Gypsy moth caterpillar feeding on foliage.

Left: A female gypsy moth lures in a mate using pheromones.

Above: A female lays one egg mass which can contain up to 1,000 eggs.



Timber Sale and Land Record Info on Your Smartphone/Tablet

If you have a smartphone (e.g. iPhone, Android) or tablet, there is a free, interactive, web mapping "ArcGIS" application that provides the ability to view timber sale and land record information.

From the app, you can view land record (parcel data) information for St. Louis County. The parcel lines are overlaid on aerial imagery. In addition, Itasca County timber sale tracts are available. Using the app from your phone or GPS enabled tablet will allow you to see your current location in relation to the tracts.

- Mobile app download info access and directions for accessing St. Louis County parcel information located here: <http://bit.ly/1lpI4vX>
- For Itasca County Timber Sale info, open the ArcGIS app and search for "Itasca County"
- Itasca County Timber Sale Info is also available via an interactive map via your computer here: <http://bit.ly/1lpItyq>

Hats off to these agencies for making this information more accessible. Let's encourage more agencies to do the same!

Log A Load for Kids FUNspiel Curling Event

Log A Load For Kids is having an inaugural FUNspiel curling event to benefit Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare on Friday, March 7 in Duluth. This will be a fun event and no prior curling experience or special equipment is needed. Will you be there?

More information and registration form can be found here: <http://mlep.org/documents/lal-funspiel2014.pdf>

Timber Margin Manager



AgStar Financial Services has a new Timber Margin Manager tool for planning & positioning your logging business. On our Business Management page on the MLEP website, there is a link to a video of Rich Miska introducing the new tool and a link to where you learn more and download the Excel file.

<http://www.mlep.org/trainingBusinessMgmt.htm>

Forest Road Safety Radio Channel

REMINDER: In an effort to reduce "hit the ditch" incidents and improve logger, trucker & forester communication - a Forest Road Safety Channel has been established.



- The frequency is narrowband - 151.497
- The use of the channel is strictly voluntarily. There is no intention of ever making it part of the timber sale contracts.
- There is no charge to use the channel.
- The channel will be shared with county land departments, USFS foresters, industry foresters, etc. So when loggers are working on other agency sales, they'll all have the option of using it between themselves.
- An authorization form must be filled out by everyone who wishes to use it. Basically just requires a signature and number of radios that will have the channel installed. As of now, they need to be renewed annually. You can find the form here: <http://www.mlep.org/documents/ROADSAFTradiofrequencyuse.pdf>



Logging Can Improve Habitat for Golden-winged Warblers in the Great Lakes Region: Incentive Program for Landowners Available

Private forest landowners can harvest timber to create habitat that will help one of the most imperiled migratory songbirds in North America: the Golden-winged Warbler (GWWA). From 1966-2010, this species experienced one of the most precipitous declines of any songbird in the United States. Historically, the GWWA nested in early successional forest sites created by natural disturbance that stretched from northwestern Minnesota to Appalachia, as far south as Tennessee and east to New Hampshire. Declines in the GWWA numbers can be attributed to fragmentation or loss of young deciduous forest breeding habitat, range displacement and hybridization with the Blue-winged Warbler, and nest parasitism by the Brown-headed Cowbird. Today the GWWA management region that includes northern Minnesota and northern Wisconsin represents a last stronghold for the GWWA, containing approximately 57 percent of the world's remaining nesting population. As a result, Minnesota is a key state in an international initiative to save the Golden-winged Warbler GWWA from further population decline. Successfully achieving GWWA population goals will require creating, restoring and maintaining forested landscapes with balanced distributions of young and mature forests in Minnesota.

Private land owners can play a pivotal role in creating habitat for this species on their property with as little as 10 acres. In addition to providing support for the Golden-winged Warbler, young forests also create important habitat for other declining species like the American Woodcock, as well as more common game species like Ruffed Grouse, black bear, deer and Wild Turkey.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and American Bird Conservancy (ABC) have joined forces to help private landowners design and implement the development of early successional habitat on qualifying lands. An incentive program is in place to attract potential habitat restoration projects on private lands that are within the GWWA focal area. The incentive payments are designed to offset the expense of the projects, compensate landowners for trees reserved from harvest and promote the creation of this type of habitat immediately. Payments are made on a per-acre basis and are depending on the type of project. An ABC forester has been hired to design and layout the habitat treatment acres and to assure that the treatments comply with NRCS practice standards.

The most common mechanical treatment to create GWWA habitat is the harvest and regeneration of aspen species. The cuts must meet certain criteria to be eligible for the incentive payments. An example of a common treatment is patch clearcutting conducted on several smaller units while mature forest is maintained in the adjacent forest matrix. Another example is cutting larger forest blocks dominated by aspen or northern hardwoods, while retaining an evenly spaced number of healthy trees (5-15/acre). Larger cutting blocks with 15 percent of the cover type reserved as small legacy patches is another good example of a way to create adequate GWWA nesting habitat. Finally, early successional habitat can be created in oak, birch, ash, and northern hardwood cover types or by shearing decadent upland brush or pole-sized aspen saplings.

To learn whether an interested landowner qualifies for this program, write to Erin M. Loeffler, Soil Conservation Tech, USDA-NRCS, 4850 Miller Trunk Hwy., Suite 2B, Duluth MN 55811 or phone 218-720-5209 ext. 114.

First Right photo: The imperiled Golden-winged Warbler.

Far Right photo: The American Woodcock, also in decline.



Future Sugar Bush Established

If you say the words “Cub Scouts,” you probably think “Pinewood Derby.” The model cars crafted by generations of Cub Scouts for their annual racing event is a traditional undertaking of the Cub Scouts in the Boy Scouts of America.

The Pinewood Derby cars built and raced by generations of those Cub Scouts from around the world aren’t made of metal or fiberglass; they’re made, naturally, of pine. The Cub Scouts from the Voyageurs Area and Northern Lights councils in northern Minnesota will follow tradition and will be racing cars made from pine. This year’s pine, however, is unique – it has been harvested right in the hometown area of the Cub Scouts, thanks to the generosity of professional loggers, lumber mills, the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI, Inc.) and others. Not only has the wood been sustainably harvested, the future forest of the harvested site was replanted by area Scouts.

Let’s begin this story at the starting gate. Last winter, Haverinen Brothers Logging of Menahga, Minnesota, harvested wood from the Boy Scout-owned Camp Wilderness located near Park Rapids. That wood came from the Camp’s certified Tree Farm. Its end use? Wood blocks for 2,500 SFI Race Kits for use with the Cub Scout Pinewood Derby. Akeley based Wicks Wood Products sawed the blanks for the construction of the derby cars.

The credentials of Haverinen Brothers Logging as professional timber harvesters and members of the Minnesota Logger Education Program (MLEP) combined with Camp Wilderness’s Tree Farm status guaranteed the sustainable harvest of the Derby car pine.

“The harvesting, transporting and milling of this SFI-certified wood are all being donated by Minnesota people and companies committed to helping educate Scouts about forest management activities and the types of products that can be provided by healthy forests,” said Tim O’Hara, coordinator of the Minnesota SFI Implementation Committee. In addition to the harvest of pine for Derby cars, the high quality logs from the site were sawn into lumber by A&C Lumber Products of Park Rapids.

The story is coming full circle this spring. Not only will the Scouts be racing cars made of native pine from their ‘back yards,’ they will, in turn, return the favor to the forest and will be replanting the land with trees. On June 20, as part of the “Trees to Track” project, the Scouts returned to Camp Wilderness to plant 400 maple trees that will eventually become a sugar bush for future generations to tap trees and to enjoy.

“This partnership between MN SIC and the Boy Scouts of America is helping to lay the foundation for the Scouts, for the connection between a land ethic and land use,” O’Hara noted.

In addition to the contributions by Camp Wilderness and Haverinen Brothers, time, materials and other resources were donated by A&C Lumber Products of Park Rapids, Norbord of Bemidji, and Wicks Wood Products, of Akeley.



Minnesota Logger Education Program
301 West First Street, Suite 510
Duluth, MN 55802



301 West First St.
Suite 510
Duluth, MN 55802

(218) 722-5442 Phone
(218) 722-5196 Fax

Dave Chura
Executive Director
dchura@mlep.org

Chris DeRosier
Executive Assistant
chris.derosier@mlep.org

*Setting the Standard in
Logging Professionalism*

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.mlep.org

Upcoming Events

February

12 – Truck Weight Compliance – St. Cloud

March

12 – Truck Weight Compliance – Alexandria
14/15 – Family Woodlands Conf. – Bemidji
18 – LogSafe Rochester (OSHA Only)
19 – Truck Weight Compliance – Bloomington
24 – LogSafe Brainerd (CPR-1st Aid/OSHA)
25 – LogSafe Baudette (CPR-1st Aid/OSHA)
26 – LogSafe I Falls (CPR-1st Aid/OSHA)
27 – Truck Weight Compliance – Duluth
31 – LogSafe Two Harbors (OSHA Only)

April

1 – LogSafe Two Harbors (CPR-1st Aid)

2 – Truck Weight Compliance – Marshall
2 – Hydraulic Maintenance – Grand Rapids
3 – Hydraulic Maintenance – Superior/Duluth
2 – LogSafe Cloquet (CPR-1st Aid/OSHA)
8 – LogSafe Grand Rap (CPR-1st Aid/OSHA)
9 – Truck Weight Compliance – Ottertail
9 – LogSafe Hibbing (CPR-1st Aid/OSHA)
10 – Road Equipment Seminar – Brainerd
15 – MLEP Logger Conference – Tower
15 – LogSafe Tower (OSHA Only)
16 – Truck Weight Compliance – Rochester
16 – LogSafe Tower (CPR-1st Aid Only)
22 – MLEP Logger Conference – Bemidji
22 – LogSafe Bemidji (OSHA Only)
23 – LogSafe Bemidji (CPR-1st Aid Only)
25/26 – Family Woodlands Conf. – Rochester

- 2014 MLEP Board of Directors -

David Hughes, President

Hughes Timber, Inc.

Andrew Arends

MN DNR Forestry

Kit Hasbargen

Hasbargen Logging, Inc

Seth Johnson, Vice President

Johnson Logging, Inc.

Charlie Blinn

U of M Extension

Jim Marshall

UPM – Blandin Forestry

Dan Lundberg, Secretary

Lundberg Forest Products, Inc.

Gordy Dobbs

Dobbs Logging, Inc.

Tom McCabe Jr.

McCabe Forest Products

Bill Fleischman, Treasurer

Izaak Walton League

Rod Enberg

Enberg Logging

Cliff Shermer

Shermer Logging

Bruce ZumBahlen

MN Forestry Association