

# *Updates on the SHARP Logger Program*

*Scott Barrett  
Associate Professor and Extension Specialist  
Forest Operations*

*VA Tech Department of Forest Resources and  
Environmental Conservation*



# *We have a new Extension Associate!*

## Karen Snape

- Started work on August 12
- Will be responsible for coordinating SHARP classes, managing the database and registrations
- Previously worked for the VA Department of Forestry in the Fredericksburg Area
- Working to transition many of the SHARP logger responsibilities to her



# SHARP Logger Survey


- Should be mailed within a few weeks
- Third comprehensive VA Logger survey
  - First in 2009, then in 2014
  - Evaluates the SHARP Logger program and also gets data on the characteristics of VA's logging operations
  - This will allow us to show change in Virginia's logging operations over the past decade (2009-2019)

2019 Virginia SHARP Logger Questionnaire – All Answers are Confidential – Please Return in the Enclosed Envelope to Receive your SHARP Logger CE Credit.

Part 1: SHARP Logger Program Participant Information (Everyone Completes This Section)

1. What County would you consider to be the center of your work area? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What is your age? \_\_\_\_\_ years
3. What is your race? (Please Circle ONE) White/Caucasian Black/African American Hispanic Other \_\_\_\_\_
4. Gender: (Please Circle One) Male Female
5. Describe your formal level of education (Please Circle One)  
did not graduate high school high school graduate some college (but did not graduate)  
college graduate (associate's degree) college graduate (bachelor's degree or higher)
6. Which best describes your occupation? (Please Circle the ONE that is most appropriate)  
Logging Business Owner Logging Company Employee Landowner  
BMP/Site Prep Contractor Wood Dealer VDOF Forester or Technician  
Industry Forester Consulting Forester Retired/No longer in business  
Other (Please describe: for example, arborist, contract trucker, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_
7. How long have you worked in the logging/forest industry or forestry? \_\_\_\_\_ years
8. My overall impression of the SHARP Logger classes I have attended is (Please Circle One)  
Very Positive Positive Neutral Negative Very Negative
9. Have you made any changes or improvements to your operations as a result of attending SHARP Logger programs?  
(Circle One) Yes No If Yes, describe if possible \_\_\_\_\_
10. Rate each statement below using the following scale: strongly disagree; disagree; neutral; agree; strongly agree  

The SHARP logger Program has helped to improve safety on logging operations. (Circle one) strongly disagree <u>disagree</u> neutral agree strongly agree
The SHARP Logger Program has helped to improve implementation of BMPs to protect water quality. (Circle one) strongly disagree <u>disagree</u> neutral agree strongly agree
The SHARP Logger Program has helped to improve sustainability of Virginia's forests and forest industry. (Circle one) strongly disagree <u>disagree</u> neutral agree strongly agree
The SHARP logger program has had an economic benefit to logging operations by helping them to either reduce costs, increase revenues, improve productivity, or through other economic benefits. (Circle one) strongly disagree <u>disagree</u> neutral agree strongly agree
The outlook is positive for the logging industry in Virginia. (Circle one) strongly disagree <u>disagree</u> neutral agree strongly agree
11. Do you have any suggestions to improve the SHARP Logger program? \_\_\_\_\_
12. Do you have any suggestions for SHARP Logger Continuing Education class topics that would be useful to you? (Please list)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

 If you are NOT a logging business owner, you are done with the questionnaire. Please return in the enclosed envelope.

# SHARP Logger Survey

- Many of the questions will stay the same from previous surveys
- We have added a section on cost related to BMP implementation
- Also worked with Ron and others to include some questions of interest to VLA

2019 Virginia SHARP Logger Questionnaire – All Answers are Confidential – Please Return in the Enclosed Envelope to Receive your SHARP Logger CE Credit.

**Part 1: SHARP Logger Program Participant Information (Everyone Completes This Section)**

1. What County would you consider to be the center of your work area? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What is your age? \_\_\_\_\_ years
3. What is your race? (Please Circle ONE) White/Caucasian Black/African American Hispanic Other \_\_\_\_\_
4. Gender: (Please Circle One) Male Female
5. Describe your formal level of education (Please Circle One)  
did not graduate high school high school graduate some college (but did not graduate)  
college graduate (associate's degree) college graduate (bachelor's degree or higher)
6. Which best describes your occupation? (Please Circle the ONE that is most appropriate)  
Logging Business Owner Logging Company Employee Landowner  
BMP/Site Prep Contractor Wood Dealer VDOF Forester or Technician  
Industry Forester Consulting Forester Retired/No longer in business  
Other (Please describe: for example, arborist, contract trucker, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_
7. How long have you worked in the logging/forest industry or forestry? \_\_\_\_\_ years
8. My overall impression of the SHARP Logger classes I have attended is (Please Circle One)  
Very Positive Positive Neutral Negative Very Negative
9. Have you made any changes or improvements to your operations as a result of attending SHARP Logger programs?  
(Circle One) Yes No If Yes, describe if possible \_\_\_\_\_
10. Rate each statement below using the following scale: strongly disagree; disagree; neutral; agree; strongly agree

The SHARP logger Program has helped to improve safety on logging operations. (Circle one) strongly disagree <u>disagree</u> neutral agree strongly agree
The SHARP Logger Program has helped to improve implementation of BMPs to protect water quality. (Circle one) strongly disagree <u>disagree</u> neutral agree strongly agree
The SHARP Logger Program has helped to improve sustainability of Virginia's forests and forest industry. (Circle one) strongly disagree <u>disagree</u> neutral agree strongly agree
The SHARP logger program has had an economic benefit to logging operations by helping them to either reduce costs, increase revenues, improve productivity, or through other economic benefits. (Circle one) strongly disagree <u>disagree</u> neutral agree strongly agree
The outlook is positive for the logging industry in Virginia. (Circle one) strongly disagree <u>disagree</u> neutral agree strongly agree

11. Do you have any suggestions to improve the SHARP Logger program? \_\_\_\_\_
12. Do you have any suggestions for SHARP Logger Continuing Education class topics that would be useful to you? (Please list)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



If you are NOT a logging business owner, you are done with the questionnaire. Please return in the enclosed envelope.

# *SHARP Logger Survey*

- Survey data will be used for
  - Evaluating/helping to improve the SHARP program
  - Highlighting the characteristics of logging businesses and how they have changed over time
    - Publications in journals
    - Extension publications
    - Magazine and newsletter articles
    - Presentations related to loggers where we can highlight who you are and what you do.
  - Also helping with a M.S. student project (BMP implementation cost)
- To do that, we need your help!

# Upcoming Classes

- Just completed our schedule of classes for 2019 and the newsletter is going out soon
- Core Classes
  - Halifax, Galax, King and Queen Co. and Clifton Forge
- Required update classes
  - Alberta, Clifton Forge, Lynchburg, Augusta, Franklin, Galax, Martinsville, Tazewell, New Kent, Duffield

## VA SHARP Logger Newsletter

Volume 18, Issue 2  
August 21, 2019

Virginia Tech  
College of Natural Resources & Environment  
Dept. of Forest Resources & Environmental Conservation  
(MC0324)  
Cheatham Hall, RM 228  
310 West Campus Dr.  
Blacksburg, VA 24061

Scott Barrett and Karen Snape  
Virginia SHARP Logger Program  
www.SHARPlogger.vt.edu 540-231-6494



### Welcome to Karen Snape

I wanted to let you know that we have recently hired an Extension Associate who will be working with the SHARP Logger Program. Karen Snape began work on August 12th. Some of you may have met her in her previous job where she was an area forester working for the VA Department of Forestry in the Fredericksburg Area for nearly 15 years. Karen will now be responsible for coordinating SHARP Logger trainings across Virginia. She will also be managing the SHARP Logger database, class registrations, and will be the first point of contact for questions related to the program. I hope that you will all get a chance to meet her in the coming months and I hope that you will join me in welcoming her. We are excited to have her working on our forestry Extension team. You can reach her using the same contact information that you have been using for the SHARP logger program at 540-231-6494 or E-mail: [sharplogger@vt.edu](mailto:sharplogger@vt.edu)

### SHARP Logger Survey will be Coming Soon

Those of you that have been in the SHARP Logger Program for a while will recall that we periodically do a survey of all SHARP Loggers. The first one we did was in 2009, and the second was in 2014. The plan is to continue doing this on five year intervals and it is now time for this survey once again. This survey is for all SHARP loggers. One part is a survey about the SHARP logger program and what we can do to improve the program. The other part is just for logging business owners, where we collect information on the characteristics of Virginia's logging businesses. With this year's survey, we will be able to show changes in Virginia's logging businesses over the past decade (2009-2019). We hope to get this survey in the mail within the next couple of weeks. You will receive more mailings about this survey and how you can participate. I hope that you will take the time to let us know what you think about the SHARP Logger program and what we can do to improve it, and if you are a logging business owner, then let us know about your operations.

### Check your SHARP Logger Renewal Date on the Label!

Check the mailing label for this newsletter to see when your SHARP Logger status expires and see if you have earned enough CE credits **AND** attended the required SHARP Logger update. We have worked to schedule a number of trainings before the end of the year. The list of classes on the next pages includes all classes that we plan to complete before the end of 2019. So if you still need additional CE credits, then take a look at the scheduled classes and see which ones you can attend to get the credits you need. Additional info on SHARP CE requirements are on the next page above the CE classes. If you have questions, just call or e-mail us at [sharplogger@vt.edu](mailto:sharplogger@vt.edu)

# Other Upcoming Classes

- Legal Challenges in Your Business – Are you ready?
  - Chatham – October 17
  - Ashland – December 17
- Log and Lumber grading workshop
  - WestPoint September 27<sup>th</sup>
- Area logger days
  - Lynchburg October 23<sup>rd</sup>
  - Alberta December 10<sup>th</sup>

Continuing Education Opportunity:  
**Legal Challenges in Your Business – Are You Ready?**  
*What's OK – What's Not!*

The Setliff Law Firm, Virginia Loggers Association, and the Virginia SHARP Logger Program are proud to present this training for loggers and supporting businesses on legal issues and business management. Prepare yourself for and be ready to meet unexpected legal challenges as we cover the following topics:

- Contracts and business issues, including dealing with independent contractors and the role of brokers
- Employment law issues, including what is acceptable or not during the hiring process, how to handle employee discipline, retaliatory discharge and Title 7 claims
- Investigation and defense of workers compensation claims
- Importance of an appropriate safety handbook and enforcement of safety rules
- Investigation and defense of personal injury and property damage claims
- Investigation and defense of OSHA investigations

**Thursday, October 18, 2018**  
**10 am-3 pm**

CVCC Community College  
Merritt Hall, Rm 5145-5146  
3506 Wards Rd.  
Lynchburg, VA 24502

Lunch Will Be Provided by Forest Pro, Inc.

**Registration is Required by October 15**

To Register: contact Ron Jenkins at 804-677-4290 or info@valoggers.org  
OR  
SHARP Logger Program at 540-231-6494 or sharplogger@vt.edu

**4 SHARP Logger CE Credits Are Offered to Those Who Attend**

SETLIFF LAW  
Central Virginia Community College  
VLA  
VIRGINIA LOGGERS ASSOCIATION  
VIRGINIA'S SHARP Loggers  
Sustainable Forestry for Business Professionals  
FOREST PRO

Virginia Cooperative Extension

# *SHARP Logger Updates*

- I appreciate your patience as we transition
- Things should get better
- As always, if you have suggestions for what we can improve, just let us know.





# *John Freeborn*

- Director of Employer Relations
- Building relationships
  - Employers and partners
  - Students
  - Faculty
- Coordinate College of Natural Resources and Environment Career Fair



# *John Freeborn*

- Develop and promote opportunities
  - Internships
  - Employment
- Student-focused industry tours
  - Increase exposure
  - Opportunities to learn more in the field
- Central point of contact for employers
  - Facilitate campus visits
  - Link with faculty and students



[freeborn@vt.edu](mailto:freeborn@vt.edu)

540-231-1138

# Questions?

Scott Barrett  
Associate Professor and Extension Specialist  
Forest Operations

VA Tech Department of Forest Resources and Environmental  
Conservation

[sbarrett@vt.edu](mailto:sbarrett@vt.edu)

540-231-6702