

The Watershed Agricultural Council's Forestry Program 2017 Logger Training Summary and Evaluation

Executive Summary

The WAC10 Contract between the Watershed Agricultural Council (WAC), Inc. and the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYC DEP) directs WAC to conduct "...targeted professional training opportunities for ... loggers in tandem with existing training or certification programs..." (WAC10, pg 4) This report summarizes the activities WAC has undertaken in 2017 to "...promote and implement the Trained Logger Certification (TLC) Program...throughout the watershed, with a goal of conducting at least six logger training workshops each year."(Task 3.C.1) These activities include: initial certification, continuing education, incentives, promotion, and evaluation. This report is also a deliverable for the WAC Forestry Program (Task 3.C.1.a). The WAC Forestry Program remains grateful for the NYC DEPs ongoing support of its efforts to train Watershed loggers.

2017 Logger Training Workshops		
Workshop	# Workshops	# Participants
Core Courses	6	49
Continuing Education	2	21
Total	8	70

Background: Logger Training in the NYC Watershed

The roots of the WAC Forestry Programs education efforts can be found in a set of position statements and policy recommendations created in 1996 by the Watershed Forestry Task Force. The position statements and policy recommendation created by the Watershed Forestry Task Force are commonly called the *Green Book*. Between 1996 and 2010 the WAC Forestry Program used the *Green Book* to refine its education efforts into three primary categories: Landowner Education, Logger & Forester Training and Urban/Rural School Based Conservation Education.

The *Green Book* specifically supports Logger Training by recommending the expansion of "...the Trained Logger Certification Program throughout the Catskill/Delaware Watershed to improve the quality of timber harvesting and provide greater water quality protection."

Initial Certification

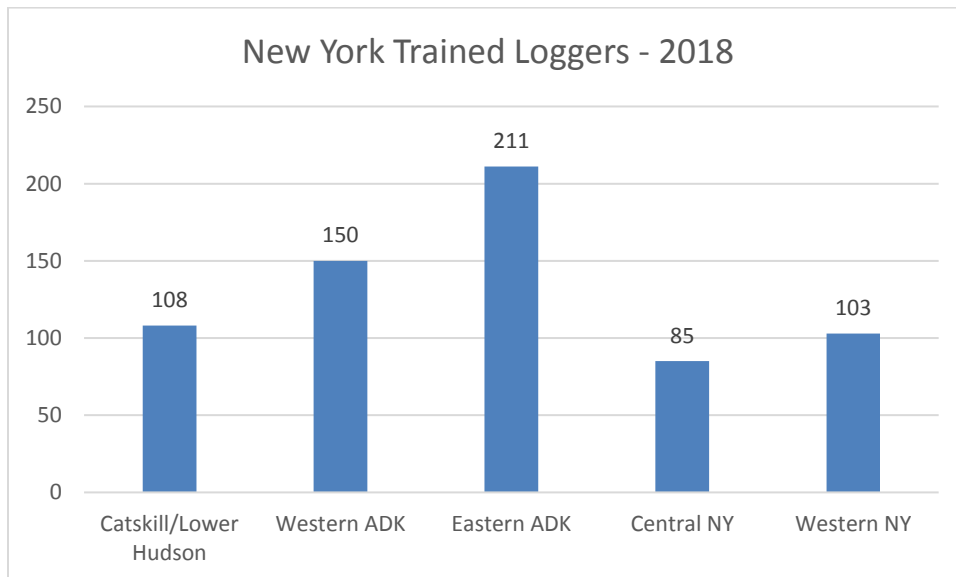
- In partnership with Columbia/Greene County Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) and New York Logger Training, Inc., the WAC Forestry Program works with regional loggers to provide the three core courses necessary to earn "Trained Logger Certification" (TLC) - Game of Logging, First Aid/CPR and Silviculture & Ecology.

Game of Logging is a series of workshops that provide training in all aspects of logging: chainsaw safety, felling techniques and machine operation. First Aid & CPR is taught by certified Red Cross instructors. Forest Ecology & Silviculture provides loggers basic information about sustainable forestry, forested ecosystems and Best Management Practices.

These three workshops comprise the core courses that loggers are required to attend in order to become Trained Logger Certified. In response to logger feedback Columbia/Greene CCE attempted to schedule 2014 Logger Training events so there would be approximately one event each month. This Special attention is given to scheduling workshops because they are the primary manner in which new participants are certified. The three core courses are offered in sequence, once in the spring and once in the fall, so new participants are insured of a timely training event.

2017 TLC Core Courses			
Workshop	Date	Location	Participants
First Aid CPR	2/24/2017	Walton, NY	8
Forest Ecology and Silviculture	4/8/2017	Walton, NY	5
Game of Logging, Level One	5/12/2018	Monticello, NY	7
Forest Ecology and Silviculture	9/15/2018	Acra, NY	9
Game of Logging, Level One	9/25/2018	Delhi, NY	10
First Aid CPR	12/4/2018	Acra, NY	10
Total	6		49

- As of 12/31/2017 there are 675 TLC loggers in New York State and 108 the Catskill/Lower Hudson Regions.



Continuing Education

- In addition to promoting the certification of new loggers the WAC Forestry Program also encourages continuing participation in Trained Logger Certification. At least two additional workshops are held each year to provide the continuing education credits loggers need to maintain their TLC certification.

2017 TLC Continuing Education Courses			
Workshop	Date	Location	Participants
Logger Rescue	May 13	Conesville NY	14
Forest Pests and Diseases	November 2	ARC Acra, N Y	7
Total	2		21

**Refer to Annex 2 for an article written about the bridge building workshop by WAC staff*

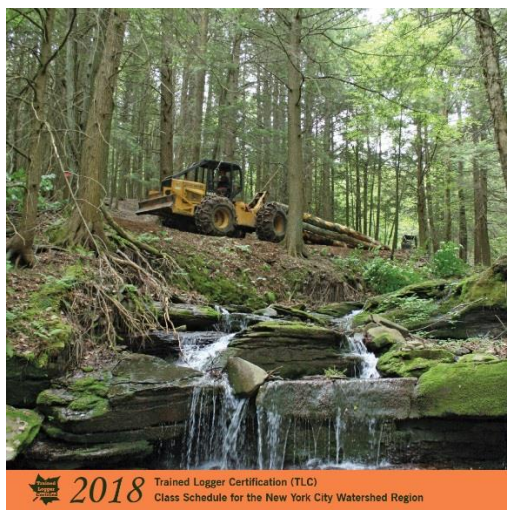
Incentives

- The WAC Forestry Program supports New York Logger Training and the Trained Logger Certification (TLC) program by providing financial incentives. These incentives are offered in the form of higher cost-share rates and preferential applicant approval for TLC loggers participating in the BMP Program.

TLC Incentive Payments			
# Payments	# TLC Loggers	Total	Average
29	15	\$ 34,817.16	\$ 1,200.59

Promotion

- The WAC Forestry Program printed and distributed 300 Logger Training Calendars to loggers in the Catskill/Lower Hudson region in 2017. For the first time logger training events for all of New York were included in this calendar. The calendar clearly identifies the logger training events scheduled for each year as well as the contact information for registration. The calendar features pictures of local TLC loggers in an effort to foster a sense of regional community. TLC loggers are encouraged to contact WAC Forestry Program staff if they wish to have their photos taken for inclusion in future calendars.



- To supplement the Logger Training Calendar the WAC Forestry Program promoted the 2017 events through two post-card mailings conducted in the winter, spring and summer. The post-card event reminders were sent to the same mailing list as the Logger Training Calendar in addition to all loggers who's TLC has lapsed over the past three years. These post-cards contained information on the Logger Training events in the Logger Training Calendar as well as information about events planned after the calendar was distributed. The first was mailed in March to 268 loggers and a second in August to 296 loggers.




- In August of 2017, the WAC Forestry Program attended the Boonville Woodsmen's Field Days to promote participation in TLC. TLC was promoted through loudspeaker announcements, an ad in the event catalog, and the TLC logo on the shirts of all staff and volunteers working the event. Staff promoted TLC at this event through the use of a promotional display placed in the Forest Industry exhibit building as well as through the distribution of TLC hats, and t-shirts.




TLC t-shirts and hats were purchased for distribution to any TLC logger with current certification to promote continued participation in TLC. WAC staff spoke with many loggers and distributed 120 sets of hats, t-shirts and NYS BMP Field Guides. 43 sets went to loggers from the Catskill/Lower Hudson region. At the time of Booneville there were 123 TLC loggers in the Catskill/Lower Hudson Region. This means WAC staff spoke with 35% of our regions trained loggers at one event!

- WAC maintains an e-newsletter targeting loggers in New York State and specifically the NYC watershed region. The Watershed Logger was created to supplement the TLC post-card mailings, allowing WAC to prompt loggers

with our TLC workshop schedules four times each year. The Watershed Logger contains information relevant to the logging industry as a means of providing additional value to recipients. Three Watershed Logger E-newsletters were sent in 2017 to an average of 292 individuals. These E-newsletters had an average open rate of 31%. Compare this to an industry average of 22.7% and loggers seem to be more tech savvy than they're telling us.




Bolts Sought for Shiitake Mushroom Production
Watershed Logger: April 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 22, 2017

SEEKING LOG "BOLTS" FOR SHIITAKE MUSHROOM PRODUCTION IN NEW YORK STATE

The Cornell Small Farms Program is engaged in a project to support log-grown shiitake mushrooms as a new farm enterprise in New York State. The program is actively training and supporting growers around the state to develop viable plans and scale up to commercial production.

One emerging need for aspiring growers is to source sustainably harvested small diameter logs, known as "bolts," for production. Bolts need to be free of defects and scarring on the bark, and are usually around 4 - 8" in diameter and about 36" long. Suitable species include Oak, Sugar Maple, Beech, and several others.

Firewood dealers, loggers, arborists, farmers, and landowners are encouraged to read [this factsheet](#) outlining the details of buying and selling bolts for shiitake production, and submit a listing to our online directory if interested in offering bolts for sale to others.

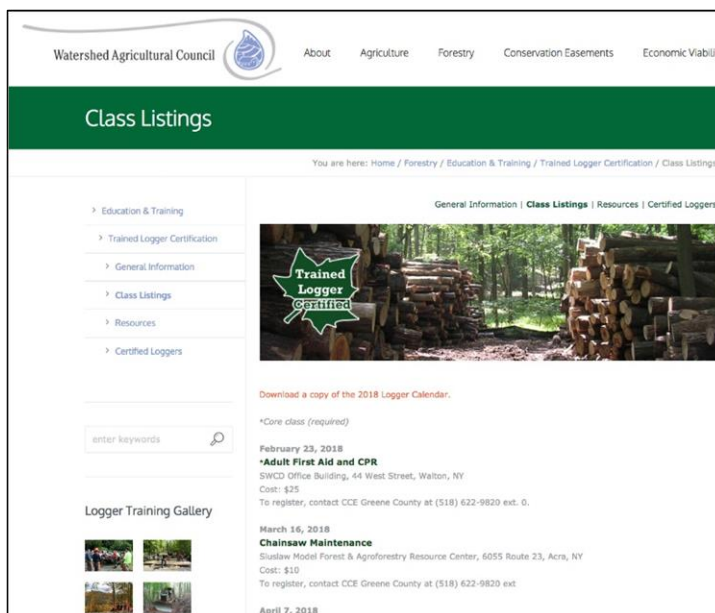
The economics of selling bolts can be very profitable, as the going price for delivered bolts equals around \$2 - \$3 per bolt. Extra care and attention must be paid to ensure the quality of the logs is maintained during harvest and transport.

Bolts should be harvested as part of sustainable forestry practices. The fact sheet outlines resources and considerations to ensure management supports the long-term health of New York's forested lands.

Learn more at: www.CornellMushrooms.org/suppliers.

www.trainedloggercertified.com

- The WAC Forestry Program maintained a web page dedicated to promoting the use of Trained Certified Loggers within the NYC watershed region.



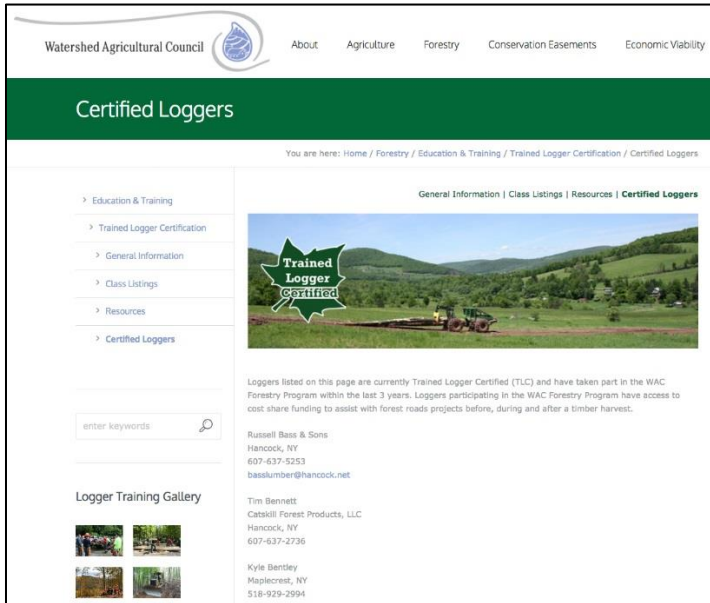
The screenshot shows the website for the Watershed Agricultural Council. The navigation bar includes links for About, Agriculture, Forestry, Conservation Easements, and Economic Viability. The main heading is "Class Listings". Below this, there is a breadcrumb trail: "You are here: Home / Forestry / Education & Training / Trained Logger Certification / Class Listings".

On the left side, there is a sidebar menu with the following items: Education & Training, Trained Logger Certification, General Information, Class Listings (highlighted), Resources, and Certified Loggers. Below the menu is a search box labeled "enter keywords" and a "Logger Training Gallery" with several small images.

The main content area features a large image of a logging site with a "Trained Logger Certified" logo overlaid. Below the image, there is a link to "Download a copy of the 2018 Logger Calendar." and a list of classes:

- *Core class (required)**
- February 23, 2018**
- *Adult First Aid and CPR**
- SWCD Office Building, 44 West Street, Walton, NY
- Cost: \$25
- To register, contact CCE Greene County at (518) 622-9820 ext. 0.
- March 16, 2018**
- Chainsaw Maintenance**
- Suslaw Model Forest & Agroforestry Resource Center, 6055 Route 23, Acra, NY
- Cost: \$10
- To register, contact CCE Greene County at (518) 622-9820 ext.
- April 7, 2018**

- WACs survey of participating loggers indicates that loggers lack the ability to use web-based marketing tools to promote their businesses. In response to this need the WAC Forestry Program has designed specific web-pages for each TLC logger in the Watershed region that participates in WAC programs. These pages feature logger contact and profile information. The logger is able to utilize a unique URL for his marketing materials, such as business cards, that will guide prospective clients to his online profile. The Forestry Program Outreach Specialist assists loggers in maintaining their profile information and performing search engine optimization (SEO) for the entire WAC TLC webpage. In return, this effort provides a good point of contact, allowing WAC to maintain communication with regional loggers and promote participation in our BMP Program.



- WAC has also designed and distributed a Trained Logger Certification tri-fold brochure. The purpose of this brochure is to disseminate accurate information about how a logger can become Trained Logger Certified.

How Do I Keep My TLC?

Your first TLC is good for three years. To maintain it, you'll need to earn three continuing education credits before it expires. You will also need to renew your First Aid & CPR certification every two years, and this refresher course counts as half a credit. You can get the other credits by attending continuing education workshops. We recommend completing one continuing education credit each year to stay ahead of the game.

Examples of Continuing Education Workshops include:

- Further Game of Logging Levels (2-4)
- Log Bucking Workshop
- Skidder Bridge Building Workshop
- Any Safety Course
- Many Business and Computer Courses
- Defensive Driving

Full day workshops are worth one credit, and half-day workshops are worth a half credit. When you complete three continuing education credits, your TLC will be extended three years from its previous expiration date.

How do I Re-certify If My TLC has Lapsed?

If your TLC expires a one-time immediate reinstatement of TLC is offered upon request. Your First Aid and CPR needs to be current and you need to have completed one Continuing Education credit in the last 6 months. Upon reinstatement you'll have one year to complete two additional Continuing Education credits. Once completed, the recertification is valid for 3 years after which you'll need to maintain your TLC as described above in "How Do I Keep My TLC?".

Questions or need more information?



If you are located in:

- Catskill/Lower Hudson

Visit: trainedloggercertified.com or contact: Cornell Cooperative Extension of Columbia Greene Counties at: (518) 622-9820

If you are located in:

- Western New York
- Central New York
- Western Adirondack
- Eastern Adirondack

Visit newyorkloggertraining.org or contact: New York Logger Training at: (518) 463-1297

trainedloggercertified.com



Trained Logger Certification (TLC)



Trained Logger Certified
GET STARTED

What is Trained Logger Certification?



Trained Logger Certification (TLC) recognizes loggers who are committed to logging safety, productivity, and environmental issues.

Why should I be Trained Logger Certified?

TLC can help you make more money and reduce logging accidents. Workshops like Log Bucking for Quality help you lower costs and increase profits. The chainsaw techniques covered in Game of Logging help get your trees on the ground and processed safely. TLC is also required to log on state land.

How do I become TLC?

Anyone can become TLC as long as they complete the three "core" one-day trainings: Chainsaw Safety & Operation, Adult First Aid & CPR and Forest Ecology & Silviculture. After completing these courses, you will receive a certificate and ID card as proof of your TLC status. TLC applies to individual loggers, not the company they may work for.

1) Chainsaw Safety & Operation

Game of Logging Level 1, or equivalent, introduces loggers to open face felling and the techniques to safely use it. Other topics covered include personal protective equipment, chainsaw safety, bore cutting, pre-planning the fell, and understanding hinge wood strength.

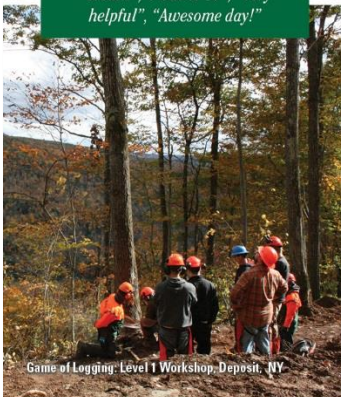
2) First Aid & CPR

Meet both TLC and OSHA workplace requirements by attending this course where you'll learn how to respond to first aid, breathing, and cardiac emergencies. Successful students receive a certificate of Adult First Aid/CPR valid for two years. TLC recognizes American Red Cross, American Health and Safety Institute, American Heart Association, and National Safety Council certifications. These courses are often available locally from hospitals, fire halls and ambulance squads.

3) Forest Ecology & Silviculture

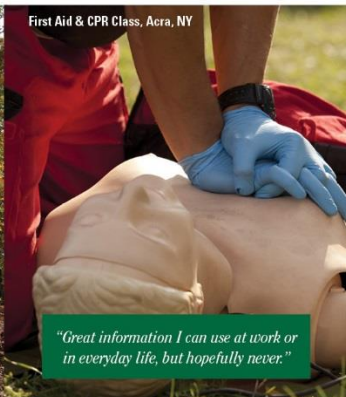
Forest Ecology & Silviculture introduces the basics of forest ecosystems, silviculture, and Best Management Practices. During the afternoon, participants go on a woods walk to put their new knowledge to work.

"Great!!", "9 out of 10", "Very helpful", "Awesome day!"



Game of Logging: Level 1 Workshop, Deposit, NY

First Aid & CPR Class, Acra, NY



"Great information I can use at work or in everyday life, but hopefully never."

"Well-presented and easy to understand"



Forest Ecology & Silviculture Workshop, Delhi, NY

Evaluation

- Evaluations were distributed at nine of the 9 workshops implemented in 2017. The results of the evaluations are broken out by workshop type in Annex 1. Ratings for effectiveness ranged from 1-5. The range included a low rating of 1 indicating “not useful”, up to 5 indicating “extremely useful”.

The following table summarizes the number of participants from the nine workshops who responded within each category.

2017 Logger Training Evaluation Summary: Number of Responding Participants						
	Not Useful		Useful	Extremely Useful		Total
	1	2	3	4	5	
Class Instruction	0	0	2	10	38	50
Hands-on Techniques	0	0	3	6	40	49

The following table summarizes the percentage of total participants from the nine workshops who responded within each category.

2017 Logger Training Evaluation Summary: Percent of Responding Participants						
	Not Useful		Useful	Extremely Useful		Total
	1	2	3	4	5	
Class Instruction	0	0	4%	20%	76%	100%
Hands-on Techniques	0	0	6%	12%	82%	100%

Annex 1: Individual TLC Workshop Summaries

The following section summarizes participant evaluations for six of the Logger Training workshops implemented by the WAC Forestry Program in 2017.

First Aid/CPR:

- **Locations and Dates:** February 24, WAC Walton Office, Walton NY; December 4, ARC Acra, NY
- **How did you find out about this workshop?** Friend or Family (3), TLC Calendar (4), Work or Place of Business (3), TLC Website (0), NYLT Website (0), TLC Postcard (1), CCE Greene Co. (Marilyn) (1), Boonville (0); Friend or Family (1), TLC Calendar (3), Work or Place of Business (1), TLC Website (1), NYLT Website (1), TLC Postcard (5), CCE Greene Co. (Marilyn Wyman) (2), Boonville (0), Mill (0).
- **How will you use the information?** In field in emergency, Hope I never need it but confident that I could do it if needed, I work with a few people that have existing heart issues, Helping people while at work or in public, In work place, Help someone who needs first aid or CPR, Be better prepared in various levels of emergency; For work and me, Help someone in distress, help someone injured, Be able to perform CPR and First Aid, In case of emergency or accident on the job, At work, home or anywhere, If there’s an emergency, In emergency situations, Updated info on CPR procedures.
- **Other Classes of Interest:** Skidder operation (5) , Steep grade logging (9), Find lines-map and compass work (5), Storm damage training (GOL to deal with blow down) (8), Sustainable forestry and harvesting/thinning (8), Outdoor survival skills (8) Timber sale design (41), Skidder bridge construction (4), Logger rescue (8), Scaling trees (5), Wood Markets (6), Trucking hot topics (4), Tablets and smart phones (7), Lube hydraulics and maintenance (4); Skidder operation (6) , Steep grade logging (6), Find lines-map and compass work (5), Storm damage training (GOL to deal with blow down) (4), Sustainable forestry and harvesting/thinning (4), Outdoor survival skills (3) Timber sale design (5), Skidder bridge construction (5), Logger rescue (4), Scaling trees (6), Wood Markets (4), Trucking hot topics (2), Tablets and smart phones (2), Lube hydraulics and maintenance (5) .
- **Class Evaluation:** Evaluations were distributed at each workshop. Ratings for effectiveness ranged from 1-5. The range included a low rating of 1 indicating “not useful” up to 5 indicating “extremely useful”. The following chart indicates the number of participants responding within each category.

	Not Useful		Useful	Extremely Useful	
	1	2	3	4	5
Class Instruction	0	0	0	5	14
Hands-on Techniques	0	0	0	3	15

- **Comments:** These courses will come in use with people trained in all fields. Will be helpful in an emergency. They were very helpful and a lot of things that I didn’t know; Very good presentation.

Game of Logging Level 1

- **Location and Date:** May 12, Monticello, NY; September 25 Delhi, NY
- **How did you find out about this workshop?** Loggers checked all options that applied. Friend or Family (1), TLC Calendar (3), Work or Place of Business (3), TLC Website (1), NYLT Website (0), TLC Postcard (0), CCE Greene Co. (Marilyn) (1), Boonville (0); Friend or Family (0), TLC Calendar (0), Work or Place of Business (6), TLC Website (0), NYLT Website (2), TLC Postcard (0), CCE Greene Co. (Ron Frisbee) (1), Boonville (0), Mill (1).
- **How will you use the information?** On jobs, Every day in logging. Add to work place safety and production, Every day on the woods, Work place; Kill more trees safer and faster. Safely work. Correct way to cut down a tree (don't cut hinge!). Fell trees better. Not get killed. Safety for work. I will use it to be safer in the woods. Safety. Being saver (safer?).
- **Other Classes of Interest:** Skidder operation (3) , Steep grade logging (5), Find lines-map and compass work (4), Storm damage training (GOL to deal with blow down) (5), Sustainable forestry and harvesting/thinning (3), Outdoor survival skills (4) Timber sale design (5), Skidder bridge construction (5), Logger rescue (4), Scaling trees (4), Wood Markets (4), Trucking hot topics (4), Tablets and smart phones (4), Lube hydraulics and maintenance (3); Skidder operation (3) , Steep grade logging (2), Find lines-map and compass work (3), Storm damage training (GOL to deal with blow down) (2), Sustainable forestry and harvesting/thinning (3), Outdoor survival skills (1) Timber sale design (1), Skidder bridge construction (2), Logger rescue (2), Scaling trees (2), Wood Markets (3), Trucking hot topics (0), Tablets and smart phones (0), Lube hydraulics and maintenance (1) .
- **Class Evaluation:** Evaluations were distributed at each workshop. Ratings for effectiveness ranged from 1-5. The range included a low rating of 1 indicating “not useful” up to 5 indicating “extremely useful”. The following chart indicates the number of participants responding within each category.

	Not Useful		Useful	Extremely Useful	
	1	2	3	4	5
Class Instruction	0	0	1	1	15
Hands-on Techniques	0	0	0	1	16

- **Comments:** Very happy, Excellent, Great time, Great Experience, Great!; All was awesome. Great course. Great. It was all excellent!

Forest Ecology and Silviculture

- **Locations and Dates:** April 8, WAC Walton Office, Walton NY; September 15, CCE Office and Siuslaw Model Forest, Acra, NY

- **How did you find out about this workshop?** Loggers checked all options that applied. Friend or Family (0), TLC Calendar (4), Work or Place of Business (0), TLC Website (1), NYLT Website (0), TLC Postcard (0), CCE Greene Co. (Marilyn) (0), Boonville (0); Friend or Family (1), TLC Calendar (0), Work or Place of Business (3), TLC Website (1), NYLT Website (1), TLC Postcard (5), CCE Greene Co. (Marilyn) (0), Boonville (0).
- **How will you use the information?** Improve areas already focusing on, To get work, At worksite, Improve logging habits; To keep my job. Through working with my father in the woods. Be able to explain the importance of silviculture to landowners. Helping others learn more about the business, To keep jobs looking good and water supply where it needs to be. On my job sites. Day to day work to help be a better logger. It will help me make ethical decisions during everyday work. Apply on the job and also help educate landowners.
- **Other Classes of Interest:** Skidder operation (2) , Steep grade logging (3), Find lines-map and compass work (3), Storm damage training (GOL to deal with blow down) (3), Sustainable forestry and harvesting/thinning (2), Outdoor survival skills (2) Timber sale design (2), Skidder bridge construction (2), Logger rescue (2), Scaling trees (2), Wood Markets (3), Trucking hot topics 1(1), Tablets and smart phones (2), Lube hydraulics and maintenance (1) ; Skidder operation (3) , Steep grade logging (4), Find lines-map and compass work (3), Storm damage training (GOL to deal with blow down)(4), Sustainable forestry and harvesting/thinning (4), Outdoor survival skills (1) Timber sale design (4), Skidder bridge construction (4), Logger rescue (2), Scaling trees (5), Wood Markets (4), Trucking hot topics (3), Tablets and smart phones (4), Lube hydraulics and maintenance (3) .
- **Class Evaluation:** Evaluations were distributed at each workshop. Ratings for effectiveness ranged from 1-5. The range included a low rating of 1 indicating “not useful” up to 5 indicating “extremely useful”. The following chart indicates the number of participants responding within each category.

	Not Useful		Useful	Extremely Useful	
	1	2	3	4	5
Class Instruction	0	0	1	4	9
Hands-on Techniques	0	0	3	2	9

- **Comments:** Thank you! Thanks.

Logger Rescue

- **Location and Date:** May 13, Conesville,, NY
- **How did you find out about this workshop?** Loggers checked all options that applied. Friend or Family (3), TLC Calendar (5), Work or Place of Business (0), TLC Website (0), NYLT Website (0), TLC Postcard (5), CCE Greene Co. (Marilyn) (3), Boonville (0).
- **How will you use the information?** To get someone help, Hope I never need to, Be able to rescue anyone who may be hurt while working in the woods, To safely remove a tree off a victim and rescue, To rescue someone, if need be, Emergency situation in woods,
- **Other Classes of Interest:** Skidder operation (5) , Steep grade logging (7), Find lines-map and compass work (3), Storm damage training (GOL to deal with blow down) (6), Sustainable forestry and

harvesting/thinning (6), Outdoor survival skills (5) Timber sale design (4), Skidder bridge construction (3), Logger rescue (1?), Scaling trees (4), Wood Markets (4), Trucking hot topics (5), Tablets and smart phones (5), Lube hydraulics and maintenance (3) .

- **Class Evaluation:** Evaluations were distributed at each workshop. Ratings for effectiveness ranged from 1-5. The range included a low rating of 1 indicating “not useful” up to 5 indicating “extremely useful”. The following chart indicates the number of participants responding within each category.

	Not Useful		Useful	Extremely Useful	
	1	2	3	4	5
Class Instruction	0	0	8%	25%	67%
Hands-on Techniques	0	0	8%	25%	67%

- **Comments:**

Forest Pests and Diseases Training

- **Locations and Dates:** Agroforestry Resource Center and the Siuslaw Model Forest, November 3, 2017
- **How did you find out about this workshop?** Loggers checked all options that applied. TLC Calendar (5), Work or Place of Business (1), TLC Postcard (3) CCE Greene Co. (Marilyn) (2).
- **How will you use the information?** Identifying, To help identify diseases and control them, Identify the cause of problems and possibly manage them, I will know what to look for. Help make me more informed logger, I still won't eat mushrooms, Definitely keep eyes open for any of these,
- **Other Classes of Interest:** Skidder operation (3) , Steep grade logging (6), Find lines-map and compass work (5), Storm damage training (GOL to deal with blow down) (2), Sustainable forestry and harvesting/thinning (4), Outdoor survival skills (4), Timber sale design (6), Logger rescue (5), Scaling trees (5) Wood Markets (3), Trucking Hot Topics (3), Lube hydraulics and Maintenance (4), Tablets and smart phones-use in business and field (5), Skidder bridge construction (5).
- **Class Evaluation:** Evaluations were distributed at each workshop. Ratings for effectiveness ranged from 1-5. The range included a low rating of 1 indicating “not useful” up to 5 indicating “extremely useful”. The following chart indicates the number of participants responding within each category.

	Not Useful		Useful	Extremely Useful	
	1	2	3	4	5
Class Instruction	0	0	0	2	5
Hands on Techniques	0	0	0	2	5

- **Comments:**

