

FACT SHEET

No. 52

Timber & Timber Harvesting in West Virginia

December, 2002

Logging Operation Safety Questionnaire

Logging is a dangerous occupation and anyone not actively working on the operation should be excluded from the area until the harvesting and reclamation have been completed. Non-employees present on official business should sign a release and be clocked on and off the site. Non-forestry affiliated visitors, even if on official business, should be accompanied at all times by someone from the operation.

Perhaps the most ignored general rule for visitors is that they have and wear personal safety equipment. This includes hard-toed shoes or boots, hard hat and eye protection. Hearing protection should be worn when around operating machinery.

The following questions can quickly provide an approximation of the level of safety on the job.

1. Are worker and visitor vehicles parked in a designated area? Yes _____ No _____
Comments _____.

2. Were you asked to sign a release form before being allowed to stay on the operation? Yes _____
No _____
Comments _____.

3. Is the operation free of debris such as oil cans, cardboard boxes, lunch wrappers, soft drink cans and water bottles? Yes _____ No _____
Comments _____.

4. Is the fuel tank located out of the way, but in an easily accessible location? Yes _____ No _____
Comments _____.

5. Does the fuel tank have a hose long enough to allow safe fueling? Yes _____ No _____
Comments _____.

6. Are the butt-offs and other chunks carefully stacked, placed in a dump truck, or returned to the woods (Yes _____ No _____) instead of being "thrown haphazardly in a pile?"
Comments _____.

7. Is appropriate personal safety equipment in use by everyone on the job? Yes _____ No _____
Comments _____

8. Are first aid kits evident at the landing and at active felling sites? Yes _____ No _____
Comments _____

9. Are seat belts functional and in use on all mobile equipment? Yes _____ No _____
Comments _____

10. Do operators prevent other employees from riding on equipment? Yes _____ No _____
Comments _____

11. Is there a certified logger on the job? Yes _____ No _____
Comments _____

12. Do all employees know the general location of the certified logger and maintain communication with the other employees? Yes _____ No _____
Comments _____

13. Have hazardous limbs and trees been identified and/or removed? Yes _____ No _____
Comments _____

14. Do the tree fellers carry wedges, hammer and plastic ribbon? Yes _____ No _____
Comments _____

15. Has the certified logger or forester in charge mapped and marked hazard areas? Yes _____ No _____
Comments _____

16. Are log trucks loaded above the standards? Yes _____ No _____
Comments _____

17. Do operators use the three-point method of mounting and dismounting equipment? Yes _____ No _____
Comments _____

18. Is truck driver provided a safe location while the truck is being loaded? Yes _____ No _____
Comments _____

19. Are workers wearing clothing appropriate for the season? Yes _____ No _____
Comments _____

20. Are fire extinguishers mounted securely on skidders, dozers and other mobile equipment?
Yes _____ No _____
Comments _____

Total yes's _____ Total no's _____

Score meaning...20 yes's. A well run and safe operation; 16-19 yes's. An average operation. A safety lecture should be provided at next lunch break; 0-13 yes's. An unsafe operation. The operation should be stopped and safety lectures should be immediately provided.

Operation scored by_____

Time and date_____.

(Prepared by Cinda Francis)

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