

Proposed Rules  
of  
Tennessee Department of Agriculture  
Division of Forestry

Chapter 0080-07-04  
Master Logger Requirements

Presented herein are proposed rules of the Forestry Division, Department of Agriculture submitted pursuant to T.C.A. § 4-5-202 in lieu of a rulemaking hearing. It is the intent of the Forestry Division, Department of Agriculture to promulgate these rules without a rulemaking hearing unless a petition requesting such hearing is filed within thirty (30) days of the publication date of the issue of the Tennessee Administrative Register in which the proposed rules are published. Such petition to be effective must be filed with the Department of Agriculture, Legal Services, P.O. Box 40627, Nashville, Tennessee 37204, and in the Department of State, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Tennessee Tower, William Snodgrass Building, 312 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37243, and must be signed by twenty-five (25) persons who will be affected by the rules, or submitted by a municipality which will be affected by the rules, or an association of twenty-five (25) or more members, or any standing committee of the General Assembly.

For copies of the entire text of the proposed rules, contact: Steve Scott, State Forester, Forestry Division, Department of Agriculture, Ellington Agricultural Center, 615-837-5520.

The text of the proposed rules is as follows:

New Rules

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0080-07-04-.01 Purpose.

The purpose of these rules is to establish a Master Logger certification program in this state.

Authority: T.C.A. § 11-04-301.

0080-07-04-.02 Definitions.

- (1) Master Logger - a person who has completed the Master Logger program and is listed by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry as having completed all requirements of the Tennessee Master Logger program or a program of substantially equal rigor provided in another state, including but not limited to, maintaining all current continuing educational requirements.
- (2) Master Logger Program - a program of study, training, and demonstration to prepare loggers to correctly apply forestry best management practices as provided in Guide to Best Management Practices in Tennessee published by the Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry and the rules and regulations regarding Best Management Practices at Chapter 0080-07-3.

- (3) Master Logger Certificate - a document recognizing the person so named as a Master Logger having satisfied all conditions and met all requirements of the Master Logger program; issued upon graduation by the Program Sponsor.
- (4) Master Logger Card - a wallet-sized document identifying the person so named as a Master Logger.
- (5) Master Logger List - official list of Master Loggers maintained by the Division of Forestry.
- (6) Program Sponsor - an agency, company, individual or entity that is approved by Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry to provide the Master Logger program in the State of Tennessee.

Authority: T.C.A. § 11-04-301.

0080-07-04-.03 Educational Requirements.

- (1) The Program Guidelines and Procedures are as follows:
  - (a) New Master Logger applicants are required to attend a series of five (5) one-day classes taught over a period of ten (10) weeks - one (1) day every two (2) weeks, for eight (8) hours on each of those days; a training manual and other learning materials are provided by the program sponsors during the class;
  - (b) Upon successful completion of all training requirements, Master Loggers receive a Master Logger certificate and a Master Logger card;
  - (c) The training curriculum by the approved program sponsor shall include the following subjects for a total of eight (8) hours each. The program sponsor may add or delete subjects only after the prior approval of the Division of Forestry.
    - 1. Safety (includes OSHA standards, Tennessee Highway Patrol truck safety and highway laws, chainsaw and equipment safety);
    - 2. Best Management Practices - (BMPs - taught by Tennessee Division of Forestry Water Quality Foresters);
    - 3. CPR/First Aid - eight (8) hours (taught by American Heart Association or the Red Cross); each logger receives a First Aid card and a Red Cross Manual;
    - 4. Silviculture - eight (8) hours (UT Extension staff);
    - 5. Business management - eight (8) hours (UT Extension Staff, including a local attorney, bank representatives, an accountant, and insurance representatives).
  - (d) The Master Logger Program Sponsor will maintain an updated computer database of new Master Loggers who have completed the sponsor's program. The sponsor will mail the new Master Logger cards within two (2) weeks of completion of training requirements.
  - (e) The Master Logger Program Sponsor will maintain a computer database containing the names of all Master Loggers who have completed the sponsor's program.
  - (f) The Master Logger database is updated no less than quarterly and after each new Master Logger is credentialed or after continuing education requirements are met.

- (2) Continuing education:
  - (a) The continuing education requirement necessitates that the Master Logger attend training one (1) day every two (2) years. The topics include: Visual Impacts, Advanced Water Quality Training/Environmental Issues (Best Management Practices and road building), Log Grading/Timber Assessment and Safety Procedures.
  - (b) Specific course content is based on the discretion of the instructor; topics are based on needs in particular areas of the state.

Authority: T.C.A. § 11-04-301.

0080-07-04-.04 Reciprocity.

- (1) A person who has a Master Logger card or certificate from another state may apply for reciprocity for a Master Logger card in Tennessee.
- (2) The Program Sponsor, in consultation with the Division of Forestry, will determine if the Master Logger applicant seeking reciprocity in Tennessee has a Master Logger certificate or card from a state that has a Master Logger program of substantially equal rigor to Tennessee's Master Logger program before granting the applicant reciprocity.
- (3) A Master Logger from another state applying for reciprocity for Master Logger status in Tennessee must provide a copy of the Master Logger card and/or Master Logger certificate (initial certification) from their respective state and pay a continuing education fee to the program sponsor to participate in the Tennessee program. The applicant is required to complete a continuing education course on Water Quality Best Management Practices. Upon completion of these requirements, the applicant is issued a Tennessee Master Logger card.

Authority: T.C.A. § 11-04-301.

0080-07-04-.05 Publishing and Maintaining the Master Logger List.

- (1) The Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry will publish the Master Logger List.
- (2) The Master Logger List will be maintained by each Master Logger Program Sponsor and accessible through a website link on the Division of Forestry website or by mail upon request.

Authority: T.C.A. § 11-04-301.

The proposed rules set out herein were properly filed in the Department of State on the 23rd day of February, 2007, and pursuant to the instructions set out above, and in the absence of the filing of an appropriate petition calling for a rulemaking hearing, will become effective on the 28th day of June, 2007. (FS 02-28-07, DBID 2387)



