

HARDWOOD CHECKOFF YOUR COMMENT COUNTS!!

You have recently been receiving countless emails and information from MFPA, and possibly other sources, regarding the recent posting of the “Hardwood Lumber and Hardwood Plywood Promotion, Research and Information Order” by USDA in the Federal Register. The most recent order includes changes to the original program that was posted in the Federal Register back in November of 2013. In my opinion, the most recent order that was posted on June 9, 2015 is even more confusing than the original version. I want to emphasize some important components of this proposal that our entire industry should monitor very closely.

1. The current order excludes industrial material such as pallet lumber, ties, cants, crane mat material, and blocking. Additionally, staves have been excluded from the current order.
2. All Hardwood manufacturers must apply for an exemption to the Hardwood Checkoff Board in order to not be subject to assessments. You will be asked to provide proof to the Board that your sales are below \$2 million annually in the areas that are subject to assessments.
3. The Referendum procedures of the order are very confusing and USDA refuses to provide clarification until the comment period closes. We currently believe that the Hardwood Checkoff would have to receive a majority of support in both sales volume in dollars AND individual companies that cast a vote.

My concern is that we have members that may feel a sense of relief because they fall in the industrial or stave category and think they will no longer be impacted by the proposed Checkoff. The Order that is currently in the Federal Register may not be the final rule after USDA considers the current comments. We don't know what the final rule will look like, so please stay engaged in the process. **UNDERSTAND THAT IF THE CHECKOFF PASSES, YOU WILL BE IMPACTED SOME WAY OR ANOTHER!** This Checkoff creates another avenue for the Federal Government to gain access to your company and your sales records. Further, the Checkoff creates another set of documents that must be maintained in order to prove whether or not you are subject to the assessment. Please understand the power that will be granted to the Hardwood Checkoff Board if it is approved by USDA. The Board will have the authority to propose changes to the Secretary of Agriculture on assessment rates, documentation requirements, sales levels, or whatever they deem necessary to increase funding for the program. More government intrusion!!

PLEASE give consideration to posting a comment by September 4, 2015 regardless of whether or not you believe you will be directly assessed. Go to the following link to post a comment, <http://www.regulations.gov/#!submitComment;D=AMS-FV-11-0074-1067>. I believe that if the Hardwood Checkoff passes, you will either be directly or indirectly impacted and it will cost your company money.

Brian Brookshire, MFPA Executive Director

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WELCOME NEW MFPA MEMBERS

Company: American Walnut Company, Inc.

Contact: Mark Schmidlein

Phone: (816) 232-6781

Email: mark@americanwalnut.com

County: Buchanan

Company: D C Logging

Contact: Danny Caribardi

Phone: (816) 547-3516

Email: danny.caribardi@gmail.com

County: Clinton

Company: Menominee Saw and Supply Company, Inc.

Contact: Ben Mroz

Phone: (906) 863-2609

Email: mensaw@cybrzn.com

County: Menominee (Michigan)

Company: Midwest Stave Exchange

Contact: Robert Berendzen

Phone: (660) 456-7610

Email: midweststaveexchange@gmail.com

County: Randolph

Company: Ozark Shavings Company LLC

Contact: Tony Parks

Phone: (573) 674-2710

Email: poleco@centurytel.net

County: Texas

Company: Slaughter, William

Contact: William Slaughter

Phone: (660) 686-2509

Email: bilslaus@fairfaxmo.com

County: Nodaway

Company: Wood Creek Enterprises

Contact: Andy Dailey

Phone: (417) 532-3222

Email: jadozark@aol.com

County: Laclede

Hardwood Checkoff Updates

MFPA Joins Five Industry Associations In Opposition To The Hardwood Checkoff

In a letter dated July 10, 2015 MFPA joined the Maryland Association of Forest Industries, Ohio Forestry Association, Michigan Association of Timbermen, Virginia Forest Products Association and the Western Hardwood Association in a joint letter to Secretary Vilsack strongly opposing the Hardwood Checkoff. Executive Director Brian Brookshire said “I feel that six industry associations coming together that represent over 1000 hardwood companies across the United States is a very strong statement to the Secretary that the Hardwood Checkoff is a bad idea that is not wanted by our industry. I applaud the efforts of the associations to come together and submit a powerful message to USDA, I hope that Secretary Vilsack gives the letter serious consideration”.

To view the letter [click here](#) or contact Laura at 573-634-3252 or laura@moforest.org to receive a paper copy.

USDA Grants Extension of Comment Period for Hardwood Checkoff Proposal

US Hardwood Industry Coalition request for extension granted

The United States Department of Agriculture’s Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) announced via notice in the Federal Register that it is extending a deadline by 60 days to allow members of the public to submit comments on the supplemental notices of proposed rulemaking for the Hardwood Lumber and Hardwood Plywood Promotion, Research and Information Order and referendum procedures.

According to a statement by the USDA, “the extension allows additional time for industry stakeholders and others to review the supplemental notices and provide feedback.”

The US Hardwood Industry Coalition, a group comprised of hardwood lumber manufacturers nationwide who oppose the Hardwood Checkoff proposal, had requested an extension on June 10, 2015, via a letter from counsel. According to the Coalition’s co-chairmen, Jeff Hanks and Jeff Edwards, “we are grateful for USDA’s decision to extend the comment period as the supplemental notice provides additional complexity to the proposed checkoff program and differs substantially from the original proposal issued in 2013.”

Hanks is President of Bill Hanks Lumber in Danbury, North Carolina; Edwards is President of Edwards Wood Products in Marshville, North Carolina. Hanks and Edwards continued, “given the overwhelming opposition from the hardwood industry to having a Checkoff imposed on it, we are, however, disappointed that USDA continues to pursue this.”

Please go to the following link to post a comment in opposition to the Hardwood Checkoff, <http://www.regulations.gov/#!submitComment;D=AMS-FV-11-0074-1067>.

CERTIFICATION & EDUCATION



Mark McCarthy



It's been 6 months since we made the switch from Game of Logging to SAWW for our Professional Timber Harvester training. In those 6 months, we've held 5 sessions and we've trained about 60 people. As promised, the basic parts of the training did not change. Participants continue to receive training from one of the best teachers in the country, Joe Glenn. The value of PTH training can be measured in a variety of ways; improved safety in the woods, increased numbers of loggers participating in sales, higher numbers of loggers wanting to achieve Master Logger status, and the general public seeing all of these helps improve the image of our industry.



Speaking of images, don't forget to think about the kids that are being helped in Missouri through the Log a Load for Kids program. There is still time to sign up for the Golf Tournament in Branson, following the MFPA Summer Meeting. You can also donate items to a silent auction or sponsor a hole. If golf isn't your cup of tea...participate in the September 12th Skeet Shoot in Columbia. Again, there will be a silent auction, and plenty of sponsorship opportunities.



Finally, it's been a year since getting the best job I've ever had. Thanks to all of you for your time, your patience, your understanding...well, just thanks.

2015 Log A Load For Kids Events

Sunday, July 26th, 2015
 Golf Tournament-Branson
 Thousand Hills Golf Resort 8:00

Saturday, September 12th, 2015
 Skeet Shoot-Columbia
 Prairie Grove Shotgun Sports 9:00

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Support The Missouri Logging Council by being a sponsor



Golf Tournament	\$300_____
Skeet Shoot	\$300_____
Combination/Dual Sponsorship	\$500_____
Food and Beverage-Skeet Shoot	\$250_____
Food and Beverage-Golf	\$250_____
Sponsor a Hole	\$250_____
Sponsor - Longest Drive	\$100_____
Sponsor - Closest to Pin	\$100_____

As a sponsor, you will get your name on a placard placed on a green, a tee box, along the firing line, or attached to food and beverage area. Your sponsorship will also be recognized in newsletters and on the MFPA web site.

Name _____
 Company _____

Return via fax to MFPA at 573-636-2591 or call our office at 573-634-3252

Summer Meeting Agenda

FRIDAY, JULY 24

9:00am - 5:00pm	REGISTRATION - Exhibit Hall Reception
9:00am - 9:30pm	MFPA ASSOCIATE MEMBER EXHIBITION - Exhibit Hall Reception
10:00am - 11:00am	EDUCATION & TECHNICAL SERVICE MEETING - Short Creek 3
11:15am - 12:30am	FOREST HEALTH COMMITTEE MEETING - Short Creek 2
12:30pm - 1:30pm	MFP PAC COMMITTEE MEETING - Short Creek 3
1:30pm - 2:30pm	GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING - Short Creek 2
3:00pm - 5:30pm	MFPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - Short Creek 3
7:30pm - 9:30pm	WELCOME RECEPTION - Exhibit Hall Reception

SATURDAY, JULY 25

6:30am - 8:30am	BREAKFAST BUFFET - Short Creek 3,4
6:30am - 8:30am	MO LOGGING COUNCIL BREAKFAST & BUSINESS MEETING - Fall Creek
8:30am - 3:00pm	MFPA ASSOCIATE MEMBER EXHIBITION - Exhibit Hall Reception
8:30am - 12:45pm	GENERAL EDUCATION SESSION - Short Creek 1,2
8:30am - 9:30am	<i>“Insurance - State of the Market”</i> by Robert Ruebsam, Jim Ruebsam, and Darrell Rapp
9:30am - 10:10am	<i>“United States Pellet Industry: What is the Future Potential?”</i> by John Papa
10:10am - 10:30am	<i>Break - Exhibit Hall Reception</i>
10:30am - 11:10am	<i>“EPA Emission Standards for Diesel Engines, An Evolution of Technology”</i> by Henry Pencik
11:10am - 11:40am	<i>“Identity Theft Professionally and Personally, It’s Real and You’re a Target”</i> by Ryan Kent
11:40am - 12:10pm	<i>“Northern Long-Eared Bat & Hardwood Checkoff Updates”</i> by Brian Brookshire
12:10pm - 12:45pm	<i>“2015 Legislative Wrap Up”</i> by Senator Gary Romine
1:00pm - 2:30pm	LUNCH & MEMBERSHIP MEETING - Short Creek 3,4
5:30pm	DEPART FROM HOTEL FOR HUGHES BROTHERS THEATRE (shuttle bus service provided)
6:30pm	DINNER and ENTERTAINMENT AT HUGHES BROTHERS THEATRE

MFPA Associate Member Exhibition

The first annual MFPA Summer Meeting Associate Members Exhibition will take place July 24-25th. MFPA is excited to host this event as a benefit for all members. Fourteen of your current and potential partners will be setup in the Registration/Welcome Reception area on Friday and Saturday with their services and equipment on display. Take advantage of MFPA's networking event of the year and see the latest our Associate Members have to offer in products, technology, and services. We're always glad to see our members at the Summer Meeting and offer events that bring you great value.

Visit the following exhibitors at the Summer Meeting:

Brewco, Inc.

Bill Hendrix
(270) 754-5847
bhendrix@brewco.com
www.brewcoinc.com

Clean The Uniform Company

Pat Farris
(314) 421-1220
pfarris@cleanuniform.com
www.cleanuniform.com

The Daniel & Henry Company

Robert Ruebsam
(314) 444-1949
ruebsamr@danielandhenry.com
www.danielandhenry.com

Environmental Works, Inc.

Tommy Bieker
(417) 890-9500
tbieker@environmentalworks.com
www.environmentalworks.com

The Larson Group

Jeff Barclay
(417) 865-5355
jbarclay@tlgtrucks.com
www.tlgtrucks.com

Laufer Group International

David Meresak
(816) 421-2233
dmeresak@laufer.com
www.laufer.com

Menominee Saw and Supply Company, Inc.

Chris Easler
(906) 863-2609
chris@menomineesaw.com
www.menomineesaw.com

Naught-Naught Agency

Darrell Rapp
(573) 874-3102
drapp@naught-naught.com
www.naught-naught.com

PDC Laboratories, Inc.

Chad Cooper
(417) 864-8924
ccooper@pdclab.com
www.pdclab.com

Premier Products, Inc.

Ken Anvender
(314) 714-1460
Ken.Anvender@PremierProductsUS.com
www.premierproductsus.com

Sustainable Forestry Initiative, Inc.

Marvin Brown
(503) 428-4848
mbdan512@yahoo.com
www.sfiprogram.org

TAG Truck Center

Bill Merical
(573) 747-0190
bill.merical@tagtruckcenter.com
www.tagtruckcenter.com

The Mine Supply Company

Ray Smith
(573) 244-5416
rsmith@theminesupplyco.com
www.theminesupplyco.com

Zeller Technologies

Tom Rudloff
(314) 638-9641
trudloff@zellertechnologies.com
www.zellertechnologies.com

Summer Meeting Raffle

Support the Missouri Forest Products Political Action Committee and purchase a raffle ticket for a chance to win a Browning A-5 Shotgun!

MFP PAC Raffle



The Missouri Forest Products Political Action Committee is raffling a new Browning A-5, Semi-Automatic shotgun at the 2015 Summer Meeting. The gun has a 28" ventilated rib barrel, 3" chamber, invector chokes, and a Missouri Black Walnut stock. The gun retails for \$1400. Tickets are selling for \$100 each and they will be sold until noon on Saturday, July 25. Purchase tickets now by contacting the MFPA office at beverly@moforest.org or 573-634-3252. Tickets can be purchased at the Summer Meeting. The gun drawing will happen during the Saturday Membership Meeting and you do not need to be present to win. Please consider purchasing raffle tickets to support the MFPPAC and possibly win a new Browning A-5 shotgun.

The MFP PAC was established to compliment the association's legislative programs. The PAC is an essential component to supporting MFPA's legislative agenda. The purpose is to financially support political candidates and causes that are beneficial to industry interests. The PAC played a significant role in MFPA's ability to include \$1,000,000 in this year's budget to re-establish the Wood energy Tax Credit. Please consider purchasing a raffle ticket and play a role in our continued success in Missouri's General Assembly.



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 MFPA Project Coordinator

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