

### WINTER MEETING 2025

Another great Winter Meeting is in the books for 2025, and we really appreciate all the members that made the trip to Jefferson City to attend. Every year we think we have set attendance records and the way to make sure that we do is never keep track of the head count! All the standing committees held meetings, and much business was discussed and staff received valuable input. Politics at the Winter Meeting are front and center, particularly following a statewide election. We congratulated ourselves on the success of Governor Kehoe's election, along with all the other candidates that MFPA supported and were successful. We had a 95% success rate on the candidates that we financially supported throughout the election!

The days prior to the Winter Meeting were filled with inauguration activities, many of which were attended by MFPA members. Jefferson City was bustling with inauguration chaos with visitors from throughout Missouri attending various events that were open to the public. The outdoor swearing in of the statewide elected officials was a fantastic display of patriotism and democracy, it was a sight to see!

MFPA has three primary pieces of legislation to work on during the 2025 session. We will be lobbying to fund the wood energy tax credit and wood industry promotion programs and introducing legislation to define "wood". For those of you not attending the meeting you are likely wondering why a wood definition is necessary? We have found that companies routinely use the term "wood" to advertise and sell products that do not contain wood at all but have been manufactured to mimic its beauty but are not the raw material that originates from trees. The cattle industry had to embark on this type of legislation a couple years ago because of the advertising that was occurring using the term "beef" but was in fact other food products mixed with chemicals manufactured to taste like the real thing.

The evening dinner and reception were really fantastic this year. We hosted the FFA forestry speaking contest again this year and the winner, Maggie Hogan, presented her speech to the crowd and did an amazing job and received a standing ovation for her performance! Senators Brad Hudson and Jamie Burger addressed the MFPA membership and pledged their support to the forest products industry. Many other elected officials attended the evening dinner, and it was a great opportunity to discuss the importance of our industry and push our 2025 legislative agenda.

The breakfast at the Capital was lightly attended, unfortunately, because of the direct competition with Governor Kehoe's prayer breakfast. It was a reminder to not compete with the Almighty, you will lose every time!



## In this issue.....

page 1

- Winter Meeting 2025

page 2

- WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

page 3

- 2025 MFPA Legislative Breakfast

page 4

- 2025 Winter Meeting Sponsors - Thank You!

page 5

- Certification & Education

page 6

- MFPA Hosts FFA Forestry Contest

page 8

- It's Time to Renew

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## WELCOME NEW MFPA MEMBERS

**Company:** Faith Timber Products

**Contact:** Paul Gingerich

**Phone:** (660) 322-1375

**Email:** pauljgingerich@gmail.com

**Company:** Luby Equipment Service

**Contact:** Jason Baer

**Phone:** (314) 756-3229

**Email:** dtimpone@lubyequipment.com

**Company:** Missouri Consulting Foresters Association

**Contact:** Bruce Palmer

**Phone:** (573) 690-9151

**Email:** brucepalmer01@gmail.com

**Website:** www.missouriforesters.org

**Company:** Renfrow Logging

**Contact:** Tim Renfrow

**Phone:** (573) 777-2711

**Email:** trenfrow81@gmail.com

**Company:** ST4FF

**Contact:** Ricardo Galvez

**Phone:** (728) 888-6018

**Email:** bdm3@sf4ff.com

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us a call (573-634-3252).

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# 2025 MFPA Legislative Breakfast

The Legislative Breakfast, held in the 3rd Floor Rotunda of the Capitol, created a real opportunity for members of MFPA to interact directly with Missouri elected officials. Members advocated for our 2025 legislative agenda including fully funding the Wood Energy Tax Credit (WETC) at \$6 million. The Wood Energy Tax Credit benefits all of Missouri's forest products industries by adding value and encouraging the use of sawmill by-products. The credit is directly received by Missouri companies that manufacture an energy product. The WETC is now in statute for the next 5 years but it must be funded to be useful for the industry. Members also advocated to continue to fund SB 138 at \$2 million to promote the forest products industry in Missouri. The promotion strategy is in full force and new funding is necessary to complete our objectives for the industry. MFPA will be introducing legislation to define solid wood for marketing purposes in Missouri. Wood alternatives and look-a-likes are rapidly infiltrating the marketplace necessitating a need to define real wood. Members did a great job speaking to elected officials about the economic importance of the forest products industry in Missouri.

## Thanks To All Who Attended The 2025 Legislative Breakfast!





# MFPA 2025 WINTER MEETING SPONSORS

## *Thank you!!*

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Independent Stave Company, Inc. - Member Dinner  
McClain Forest Products LLC - Legislative Breakfast  
Royal Oak Enterprises, Inc. - Welcome Reception

### **Meeting Event Sponsors:**

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# CERTIFICATION & EDUCATION



## Remaining PTH Classes for 2025

To enroll, or if you know someone that needs the certification...  
give us a call at the MFPA office (573) 634-3252, or email Chris at Chris@moforest.com.  
You can also enroll yourself online, [www.moforest.org](http://www.moforest.org).

While we are discussing PTH certification, it's never too early to get your continuing education credit. Get it done early, then you don't have to worry about it later.

## 2025 PTH Class Schedule

Location	Level 1 & 2	Level 3 & 4	Forest Management
Houston	February 26-27	March 10-11	March 5
Chillicothe	March 12-13	March 27-28	March 18
Kirksville	September 8-9	September 29-30	September 16
Camdenton	October 7-8	October 20-21	October 14
Bolivar	October 22-23	November 10-11	November 5

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# MFPA Hosts FFA Forestry Contest

MFPA collaborated with Missouri FFA to host the Fall Public Speaking Competition. This state level competition was new last year to the MFPA Annual Winter Meeting. We are excited to have this competition become a part of our Winter Meeting. The winning students from each FFA District presented their speeches on January 14<sup>th</sup> to a group of judges, including Luke Brookshire from Madison County Wood Products; Lacey Schmidt from Gastineau Log Homes, and Gerald Ross, retired State Forester. MFPA judges found all the students speeches to be excellent! Thank you to all of the judges who volunteered at the district and state levels. The winner of the state competition is Maggie Hogan from Salem High School, Salem, Missouri.

***Congratulations Maggie!!!***

MFPA will be reaching out to MFPA members to serve as judges in next year's District and State level competitions. If you are able to help judge next year's district competition in your area, let us know by calling the MFPA office at 573-634-3252. or emailing [laura@moforest.org](mailto:laura@moforest.org).



FFA Students in the State Forestry Public Speaking Competition



Winner Maggie Hogan congratulated by MFPA Executive Director Brian Brookshire

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## ***It's Time To Renew!***

Membership renewal forms have been mailed and it's time to renew your membership to continue receiving all the benefits of MFPA!

In your envelope you will find your membership dues invoice and the current contact information we have listed for your company along with the "Little Tree in the Big Forest" childrens book MFPA has had published. When returning your membership dues, **please notify us of any changes to your contact information or any products and services you offer.** Notify the MFPA office of any contact information changes throughout the year!

*Contact information includes:*

- Company name
- Main contact
- Physical address
- Postal address
- Main phone number
- Cell phone number
- Toll free number
- Email address
- Website

Help us keep our member information current! Send us your employee names, email addresses, and phone numbers too. Keep your employees current with industry news coming from MFPA. We can do that with up-to-date emails and cell numbers!

Please return your dues and information promptly as we have started assembling the 2025-2026 Membership Directory...