

# Northern Tier Hardwood Association

## NEWSLETTER

### *Wishing You a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!*

NTHA has had a busy and successful 2015! At NTHA we are committed to providing opportunities for our membership to train and grow professionally through continuing education. The Board of Directors and entire NTHA membership is committed to sustainable forestry and a well-trained workforce. We continue to offer Game of Logging, Advanced Logger Rescue, Log Bucking, CPR/First Aid, and forest landowner trainings.

NTHA now offers reimbursement to members for trainings. For Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) courses, NTHA will reimburse members fifty percent up to \$100/person up to the reimbursable number based on membership category. Consider joining today, and keep an eye out in 2016 for more trainings to come!

We could not be successful without the support from both our members and our partners. We continue to build our membership while promoting and supporting the forest industry regionally and statewide. In 2016, we look forward to working with our partners to provide more great trainings. Thank you all for your support, and best wishes to you and yours for a happy holiday season.

-Sarah Hall-Bagdonas  
Program Manager, NTHA



*Game of Logging Level 1 for Gals.*

**DECEMBER  
2015**



### **2015 Highlights:**

#### Outreach

- Awarded 4 scholarships to high school and college students
- Assisted with the Woodmobile at the PA Farm Show
- Tabled at Allegheny Society of American Foresters Conference
- Tabled at Keystone Contractor's Workshop
- Attended several local high school banquets, science fairs, and career days
- Provided an educational booth at PA Timber Show and other local events

#### Trainings

- 3 CPR/First Aid Trainings sponsored
- 9 Game of Logging Trainings held
- First ever Game of Logging for Gals
- 6 Advanced Logger Rescue trainings held
- Hardwood Log Bucking class held
- Mill Tour—Held an educational day to learn how 5 local companies utilize hardwood in their manufacturing.
- Trained 239 industry and 71 Fire/EMS personnel, and 10 landowners.

## **Successful Annual Banquet**

We had a great crowd at the NTHA annual banquet held on Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, at the Shadowbrook Inn and Resort in Tunkhannock, PA. Over 100 members and their guests enjoyed a great meal, interesting presentation, annual meeting, and lots of giveaways to end the evening.

Thank you to Wayne Bender, acting Executive Director of the Hardwoods Development Council, and Chuck Coup, Program Manager of PA SFI, for giving an overview of their organization's yearly activities.

A special thank you to the presenter, Nicole Chinnici from the Northeast Wildlife DNA Lab for a very interesting discussion on Ticks and Tick-borne Diseases. We hope to see everyone next year!



**Interested in joining NTHA, or learning more about the Association? Visit: [nths.org](http://nths.org)**



**We are now on FACEBOOK. "Like" our page! [Facebook.com/nthardwoods](https://www.facebook.com/nthardwoods)**

### **CONTACT US:**

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### **Introducing New Program Manager, Sarah Hall-Bagdonas**

Sarah is a trained biologist with roots, passion, and experience in the timber industry. Sarah grew up in Kane, the Black Cherry Capital of the World near the Allegheny National Forest, prompting her interest and love for Pennsylvania's forests. Sarah earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Millersville University in 2010.

She has worked as a naturalist for PPL, and most recently as a Forest Specialist for the Wayne Conservation District. There, she was the head judge and organizer of the Woodsman's Competition and coordinated the Maple Tour. She is PA SFI Trained/Qualified and has served as an advisor to the Professional Forest Industry Association, Wayne Lackawanna Forest Landowner Association, as well as the Northeast Maple Producers Association. She enjoys volunteering her time as President of the Northeast PA Audubon Society, and enjoying the outdoors with her family.

The mission of the Association is to promote long term economic development in the Northern Tier of Pennsylvania through intelligent forest management, careful expansion of secondary wood processing, improved manufacturing methods and regional hardwood promotion.