

Ohio Timber Harvest Planning Program

Ohio Department of Natural Resources,
Division of Soil & Water Conservation

In cooperation with

Ohio's Soil & Water Conservation Districts

Program Purpose: This voluntary program is designed to assist woodland landowners, loggers and foresters with the pre-planning of logging activity. The program is designed to help the responsible parties select Best Management Practices (BMPs) that will reduce soil erosion and maintain the harvest site to state standards found in the Agricultural Pollution Abatement Rules and Standards (Ohio Administrative Code-1501:15-5-01 to 1501-5-18).

Timber Harvest Notice of Intent (NOI)
(For Voluntary Submittal)

Landowner Name(s): _____
Mailing Address: _____

Telephone No.: _____ Cell No: _____
E-mail Address: _____
Logging Company Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____

Contact Person: _____
Telephone No.: _____ Cell No: _____
E-mail Address: _____
Certified Master Logging Company? Yes No
Has logger attended BMP training within last 5 years? Yes No
Forester Name(s): _____
Company or Organization Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____

Telephone No.: _____ Cell No: _____
E-mail Address: _____
Name of individual submitting the NOI: _____
Implementation Schedule:
Number of Acres to be Harvested: _____
Number of Stream Crossings Needed: _____
Proposed Starting Date: _____
Proposed Completion Date: _____
Location of logging operation
County _____ Township _____ Section _____
Name of public road where haul road/landing is located: _____
Latitude & Longitude of site/job entrance (Optional, indicate if known) _____ ° N _____ ° W

Timber Harvest NOI

If you wish to file a “**Timber Harvest Notice of Intent (NOI)**”, complete only pg. 1 of this document and submit the **entire** document to the Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) in the County where logging is to occur.

The Timber Harvest NOI form serves only as a voluntary notification and **Does Not** provide affirmative defense in the case of a Civil Suit as described in the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC), rule #1501:15-5-15, section (A), (1).

Timber Harvest Plan

If you wish to file a complete “**Timber Harvest Plan**” for approval by the local SWCD, please complete all 4 pages of this document and return the entire, completed document to the SWCD in the county where logging is to occur.

***Note: Any person owning or responsible for a silvicultural operation who is managing such an operation in accordance with a “Timber Harvest Plan” currently approved by the SWCD shall be considered in compliance with the state rules for agricultural pollution abatement.**

In a private civil action for nuisances involving agricultural pollution, it is an affirmative defense if the person owning, operating, or otherwise responsible for agricultural production or silvicultural operations is operating under and in substantial compliance with an approved Timber Harvest Plan.

Guidance for completing the “Timber Harvest Plan”

The Timber Harvest Plan is based on the guidelines found in the book “**BMPs for Erosion Control for Logging Practices in Ohio**”. The management practices detailed in the book form the standards used to determine compliance with Ohio’s Agricultural Pollution Abatement Rules and Standards. For your convenience, chapter and page number references are provided on the Timber Harvest Plan form. By referring to these pages, you can see photos and/or diagrams as well as written descriptions of the recommended BMPs. To obtain a copy of the BMP book, please contact the local SWCD, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Soil & Water Conservation at (614) 265-6610 or go online at <http://ohioline.osu.edu/b916/index.html>

Timber Harvest Plan

A. Nature and scope of logging activity

Acreage of operation: _____ Acres

Harvest type: ___ Thinning
 ___ Timber Stand Improvement (TSI)
 ___ Clear-cut
 ___ Shelterwood cut
 ___ Selection cut - (single tree or group)
 ___ Diameter limit
 ___ Other: (Please specify): _____

Type of harvesting system to be utilized:

Manual (Chainsaw felling and skidder)
 ___ Rubber tire skidder with ___ Grapple ___ Cable
 ___ Tracked skidder/dozer

Mechanized
 ___ Cut to length (harvester/forwarder)
 ___ Feller-buncher w/ rubber tire skidder ___ Grapple ___ Cable
 ___ Feller-buncher w/ tracked skidder ___ Grapple ___ Cable

Other
 ___ Horse skidding ___ Farm tractor skidding ___ Farm tractor w/ forwarding trailer

B. Maps: _____ All

Timber Harvest Plans submitted **must** include a complete and legible plan map. Attach a copy of a U. S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic map and/or a USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service soils map that encompasses the proposed logging site. On the map, indicate the following: Proposed road systems (haul and skid roads), stream crossings, log loading area(s), property boundaries and the boundaries of the logging operation.

(**Note:** If you need assistance in obtaining or completing map(s), contact the local SWCD office)

C. Watershed information _____

Indicate the name of the nearest river or stream that the logging site drains to.

(Example: Unnamed tributary flowing to Salt Creek): _____

D. Best Management Practices _____

Circle **Yes** or **No**; If **No**, explain the proposed alternative to be used or why the BMP is not applicable.

Yes No 1. Leave a filter strip between perennial streams and roads, landings, etc. (Sect. VII, pgs. 46-48).

Explain alternative: _____

Yes No 2. Construct skid trails at grades of 20% or less. (Sec. IV, pg. 29) **Explain alternative:** _____

Yes No 3. Haul road entrances will be graveled up to 200' from the public highway when necessary to reduce mud on the road.

(Sec. III, pg. 28) **Explain alternative:** _____

Yes No 4. Log landings will be constructed as small as practical, be adequately drained and constructed outside of any filter strips.

(Sec. II, pg. 7) **Explain alternative:** _____

Yes No 5. Put dips in all approach roads and skid trails that are upslope of landings to prevent water from running onto the landing

(Sec. II, pg. 7) **Explain alternative:** _____

Yes No 6. When roads cannot be out-sloped, ditch water off the road and use properly sized culverts at intervals specified in the BMP handbook. (Sec. III, pgs. 17-25) **Explain alternative:** _____

Yes No 7. On non-ditched roads, use broad-based dips and/or grade breaks at intervals specified in the BMP handbook. (Sec. III, pgs. 19-20) **Explain alternatives:** _____

Yes No 8. Temporary water bars or turn-outs will be placed on skid trails to control potential erosion during any temporary shut down periods. (Sec. IV, pgs. 31-35) **Explain alternative:** _____

Yes No 9. Permanent water bars will be installed at specific intervals as described in the BMP handbook (Sec. IV, pgs. 31- 35 and Sec. VIII, pgs. 49-50) **Explain alternative:** _____

Yes No 10. Stream crossings for Haul and Skid roads shall be avoided when possible. (Sec. VI, pgs. 37-45)

- Streams should be crossed at right angles (90°). Divert water from road prior to the crossing with a water diversion device or break in grade.
- Portable bridges will be used when practical, and culverts used when necessary.
- Streams to be forded shall have banks and stream bottom armored.
- All stream crossings shall be restored

Explain alternative: _____

Yes No 11. Logging slash greater than 6" diameter shall be removed from the channel of perennial streams as identified on U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute quadrangles. Slash shall be pulled back from channel and bank. (Sec. VII, pg. 47)

Explain alternative: _____

Yes No 12. Harvest (sale) closeout procedures shall be completed. (Sec. VIII, pgs. 49-57).

Water bars will be built on skid trails and haul roads that will not have vehicular traffic.

The following areas will be seeded and mulched using the liming, fertilization, seeding and mulching guidelines found in the BMP handbook: landings, roads within filter strips, stream crossings, haul roads and skid trails.

Indicate the seed mixture that will be used: _____

Explain alternative: _____

Yes No 13. All trash, such as used oil filters, equipment, parts and other items will be removed from the harvest site. (Sec. II, pg. 7.)

Explain alternative: _____

E. Signatures of Responsible Parties

I am aware of the erosion control requirements of Ohio's Agricultural Pollution Abatement Rules and Standards and agree to conduct all logging activities on this site in a manner that will reduce the potential for damage to waters of the state.

Landowner Signature _____ (Date)

Logger Signature: _____ (Date)

Forester Signature: _____ (Date)

Date that the Timber Harvest Plan was received by the SWCD: _____

Form reviewed by: _____ (SWCD Technical Representative) _____ (Date)

Was a site review conducted by the SWCD staff _____ Yes _____ No

Site reviewed by: _____ (SWCD Technical Representative) _____ (Date)

The Timber Harvest Plan was reviewed at the _____ meeting of the _____ (Date) SWCD Board of Supervisors and was:

_____ Approved

_____ Disapproved for the following reason(s): _____

Signed: _____ (Date)
Chair, SWCD Board of Supervisors