

Michigan Registered Forester Program

Spring 2019 Newsletter



Welcome to Michigan's new registered forester program. In June of 2018 the program was formally moved from the Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Division to the

Department of Natural Resources Forest Resources Division through [PA116 of 2018](#). Your participation in the program matters greatly to the forestry profession and to the other registered foresters in Michigan as well as the public you serve. Please take time to read this newsletter for important changes to the program.

Michigan Board of Foresters



The Board of Foresters is an independent self-directed body appointed by the state forester and created within the Department of Natural Resources. It is the Board that administers the Registered Forester Program according to PA 116 of 2018. The composition of the board of foresters is laid out in PA116 of 2018 Section 53505. Board members are as follows: Chair Gerald Grossman, Vice Chair Joyce Angel, Secretary Brenda Haskill, Bill Botti, Melinda Jones, Todd Penrose, and James Schmierer. Board members have been appointed to 4-year and 2-year terms that will begin expiring in November of 2020. Each board member represents a group or sector of the forest industry in Michigan. Information regarding meetings of the board, agendas, past minutes, and bylaws can be found on their webpage within the DNR website [HERE](#) or by doing a search for the Michigan Board of Foresters from most search engines.

newsletter is an update from the Board is requesting you to fill out and return with your current information. This will allow us to connect with you easily and create a better resource of information for anyone interested in finding and contacting a registered forester.

Continuing Education Credits

A component added to the program through PA116 of 2018 is the requirement for every registered forester to complete 24 continuing education credits every 2 years. Each individual will keep track of their own credits and include a report to the Board of Foresters at your renewal time. The board has established a policy regarding continuing education credits, and it can be read in its entirety [HERE](#). For a quick summary of which credits will be accepted please refer to the following information below.

The Michigan Board of Foresters hereby approves the following continuing education credits:

1. Society of American Foresters (SAF) Category 1 core education credits.
2. International Society of Arboriculture (ISA):
 - a. Certified Arborist credits
 - b. Municipal Arborist Specialist credits.
 - c. Board Certified Master Arborist credits.
3. Michigan Sustainable Forestry Education (MSFE) credits excluding truck safety, hydraulics, and equipment-based courses.

Complaints and Violations

The Registered Forester program has been structured to receive and address complaints of potential standards violations by registered foresters in Michigan. Any person, including registered foresters and non-registered foresters, can submit a complaint form to the Board of Foresters. The process for handling a completed complaint form once it is received by the Board is outlined in PA116 of 2018 Section 53517. Complaint forms can be found on the webpage for registered foresters found [HERE](#).

Calendar of Upcoming Continuing Education Credit Options

Conduct Corner

By Board Chair Gerald Grossman

PA 116 of 2018 includes 14 requirements that each Michigan registered forester shall comply with. (See Sec. 53515 (b) through (o)). Every Michigan registered forester should review them periodically. This conduct corner is intended to stimulate discussion and review “real world” situations.

Do you think the following situation is covered in PA 116 of 2018?

You are the forester administering a timber sale. The access road from the paved, busy public road has a gate on it. The trucking company has requested permission to leave the gate open during the day when trucking is occurring. They have indicated that it is very dangerous to have the trucks stop on the road to open the gate coming in empty and then again when they leave loaded. The road shoulder is not sufficient for the trucks to be safely off the road while the driver opens and closes the gate. The landowner refuses the request and insists that the gate remain closed at all times.

Does PA 116 apply?

Consider for discussion purposes:

Sec. 53513 (j) A registered forester shall “Provide forestry services in a manner that will ensure the public health, safety, and welfare and if, in his or her professional judgment, any of these are endangered, notify the client or employer and give appropriate recommendations or instructions.” Sec. 53513 (k) “If a client or employer fails or refuses to follow recommendations or instructions under subdivision (j), notify the responsible governmental department or agency of the threat to public health, safety, or welfare.

Contact Board Secretary Brenda Haskill with any questions or concerns: 989-732-3541 x5043; haskillb@michigan.gov

This is a sample; many more options are available throughout the year. Please see the online sources noted at the end.

March 24-27: Certified Arborist Prep Course, Lansing, MI 24 CEU or 8 CEU/day, www.asm-isa.org

April 3: Log Scaling and Grading course, South Range, MI, 8 category 1 credits from SAF, www.sfimi.org

April 4: Sustainable Forestry Conference, Florence, WI, www.lumberjackrcd.org 8.5 SFE credits from Michigan SFI.

April 12: GLTPA Spring Fling, Green Bay, WI, www.gltpa.org 8.0 SFE credits from Michigan SFI

April 18-19: Michigan SAF spring conference, Grayling, MI www.michigansaf.org 8.5 category 1 credits from SAF

April 25-26, Michigan Association of Timbermen Annual Convention, Boyne Mountain Resort, MI, www.timbermen.org 4 SFE credits from Michigan SFI

Visit the Michigan SFI website and search in the education tab for a long list of options statewide for continuing education credits that are applicable to the registered forester program. www.sfimi.org

The Society of American Foresters (SAF) is thrilled to announce that online access to Journal of Forestry quizzes is now open. Anyone in need of continuing forestry education credits (CFEs) can go to www.ForestEd.org, SAF’s new online learning platform, to purchase and complete a quiz with instant results—including a personalized certificate validating successful completion of the quiz. Also visit www.eforester.org for a full list of continuing education opportunities.

The Arboriculture Society of Michigan’s calendar of events can be found at www.asm-isa.org and credits are noted for all trainings.