



Appalachian Sustainable

Bat Regulations Will Impact Landowners

The Northern Long Eared Bat (NLEB) population is being decimated by a fungus and attempts to protect it will limit forest products harvesting, according to a U.S. Fish and Wildlife endangered species specialist.

The remarks came during the 2015 Summer Conference of Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc. on July 25-28 at Colonial Williamsburg. The business program included a presentation on the bat's listing earlier this year as a "threatened" species and a presentation on cross-laminated timber building materials.

Troy Anderson, USFWS assistant field office supervisor for endangered species in Virginia, said the NLEB lives in more than 32 states in the eastern United States and numbers in the millions.

A fungus from Europe was introduced in New York in the past two years that is killing the NLEB and other bat species. Researchers have found caves with more than 90 percent of the bats killed by the disease.

The USFWS declared the bat a threatened species this year and developed restrictions for activities in bat nesting areas. No bats can be purposely harmed and incidental "takes" from forest and other activities must have include conservation measures that:

- no harvesting within a 0.25 mile (0.4 km) from a known, occupied hibernaculum (any time of year); **and**
- avoid cutting or destroying known, occupied maternity roost trees during the pup season (June 1–July 31); **and**
- avoid clearcuts (or similar treatments) within 0.25 (0.4 km) mile of known, occupied maternity roost trees during the pup season (June 1 – July 31)

Anderson said the responsibility is on the landowner to determine if bat hibernaculum occur on the property. Once found, it should be reported to the nearest USFWS to include in accurate mapping. Each field office has information about NLEB populations in the area.

The complete presentation is available on PDF and DVD from the AHMI office.

Virginia Tech Professor and Researcher Dr. Dan Hindman explained a new construction product, cross laminated timbers, built from hardwood and softwood board to make engineered walls. The materials replace traditional products like steel, concrete and other wood.

"This is a new product that uses old materials - wood and glue," Hindman said. "It is a true innovation and has tremendous potential to revolutionize construction."

The panels were developed in Europe to simplify construction and utilize "green" resources. The
(see Meeting on page 3)



Northern Long Eared Bat



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The way I see it...

By Tom Inman, AHMI President

...the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service missed an opportunity to connect with the hardwood industry at the Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc. Summer Conference in Williamsburg.

AMS oversees the Commodity Checkoff Programs like the proposed Hardwood Lumber and Plywood Promotion, Research and Information Order (commonly referred to as Hardwood Checkoff). I have been inviting them to participate in the Summer Conference for months.

When the Revised Order was published on June 7 for public comment, I immediately reached out to them again. I emphasized that the AHMI meeting was the only regional gathering of the hardwood industry during the comment period.

In early July, an AMS official accepted the invitation and committed the department to participate. Plans were finalized the week before the meeting and two AMS leaders were attending.

Less than 48 hours from their presentation, they cancelled. The AMS official now says they "hope" to have a webinar in the coming weeks for the hardwood industry to watch and receive additional information.

I have fielded dozens of questions about the Revised Order, the assessment definition and formula, the vote computation and more. I offer exactly what the Order states and encourage AHMI members to interpret it for themselves and make comments on the Federal Register.

Many have made comments expressing support for Checkoff and others are raising concerns in opposition. Most on both sides have questions that could have easily been answered at the AHMI Conference and then shared with the industry at large. We offered to do that by video.

If you have questions about the Hardwood Checkoff Revised Order, I encourage you to post those online by searching at <https://www.federalregister.gov> for the "hardwood lumber promotion." The USDA assures me they will review and answer these in the Final Order.

Of course, they also said they would answer these at the Summer Conference.



Jim Tanner, Tanner Lumber Co., Elkins, WV, receives 25-year Membership plaque from AHMI Chairman Steve Houseknecht. Thank you to the Tanners for commitment to AHMI



AHMI welcomes the following new members:

Distributor

KTS Forest Products LLC
Tom Mereen
202 Barclay Street
Bedford, PA 15522

New members are the lifeblood of the association and if you know of potential members, please contact AHMI at (336) 885-8315.

Future Meetings

The following is the list of future meetings of Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc. that have been contracted. More information will be mailed to members and guests. Please mark your calendar today and make plans to attend the following:

2015 Fall Meeting & Tours - Oct. 20-22

in conjunction with the National Wooden Pallet & Container Association, Charlotte, NC

2016 Annual Meeting - Feb. 25-Feb. 28

Naples Beach Club, Naples, FL

2016 Summer Conference - July 24-28

The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, WV

Meeting from page 1 _____

panels can be configured to any dimension, offer excellent insulating properties and can be built in a variety of thicknesses depending on the use. The walls are lag-screwed together and can also be modified at production for windows, doors and even electrical wiring.

Hindman and other researchers at Virginia Tech have tested southern yellow pine and Appalachian Poplar. While the pine is less expensive, the Poplar had more than twice the strength and stability.

"There is a tremendous opportunity we believe for solid wood for light commercial and residential," he said. The panels have successfully passed fire, acoustic and impact testing.

The complete presentation is available on PDF and DVD from the AHMI office.

AHMI recognized Jim and Helen Tanner of Tanner Lumber Co., Elkins, WV, for 25 years of membership.

There was also a brief reminder about the Hardwood Checkoff and a handout. Participants were asked to file comments about the Revised Order before the Sept. 7 deadline.

The Summer Golf Tournament sponsored by Corley Manufacturing winners were : Low Gross 1st place Ben Mathews, 2nd place Jay Reese; Low Net 1st place Mike Passerell, 2nd place Lowery Anderson; Closest to the Pin Chris Keziah; Long Drive Ben Mathews.

The Summer Sporting Clays Tournament sponsored by Farm Credit of the Virginias winners were 1st place tie: Steve Hamer and Matt Begley; 2nd place: Steve Houseknecht.

Special thanks to the following Conference sponsors:

BB&T Insurance Services

PLM/ILM Insurance Co.

U*C Coatings

TJT Consulting

Corley Manufacturing Inc.

SII Dry Kilns

Farm Credit of the Virginias

GW Mountcastle Insurance

If you have questions, call the AHMI office at 336-885-8315 or info@appalachianwood.org.

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Pre-Registration Near 200 For NWPCA / AHMI Tours In NC

CHARLOTTE, NC - The National Wooden Pallet and Container Association and Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc. will partner in October for fall meetings and tours in North Carolina.

There will be a limit of 400 people on the tours because of logistics. The early registration is approaching 200 people and the meeting should be a sellout.

The tours will include hardwood and softwood sawmills and new and recycled pallet manufacturing facilities over two days. Sites include:

Edwards Wood Products, Marshville, NC

Jordan Lumber Co., Troy, NC

Pallet One, Mocksville, NC

Pallet Resources of NC, Lexington, NC

The host hotel is the Crowne Plaza Charlotte Executive Park, 5700 Westpark Drive, Charlotte, NC 28217 and telephone is 1-866-380-0612 to book your room by Sept. 28, 2015. The Crowne Plaza is located just minutes from the Charlotte Douglas International Airport.

Please mention group code NWP to receive the discounted rate of \$149/night + tax.

Online meeting registration is open at www.palletcentral.com and click on events. The meeting is titled "Fall Plant Tours." When registering, AHMI members should scroll to the middle of the registration form and click the button for AHMI members. It does not require that you sign in or have a password.

The conference is held annually and more than 450 pallet makets attended in 2014. This is an excellent opportunity to network with pallet lumber buyers from across the U.S.

There are sponsorship and advertising opportunities for AHMI member companies to connect with pallet makers. Please contact the AHMI office for the best selection and assure your involvement. More information is available at www.appalachianwood.org/meetings.htm and register at www.palletcentral.com.

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Hardwood Checkoff Comments End 9/7

The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced recently that the comment period for the supplemental notice to amend the 2013 proposed rule for a Hardwood Lumber and Hardwood Plywood Promotion, Research and Information Order (Order) has been **extended to Sept. 7, 2015**.

Under the proposed Order, assessments would be collected from hardwood lumber and plywood manufacturers and would be used for promotion, research and information.

USDA is asking seven specific questions in the new Order. You can choose to comment about any part of the Order but they want your input.

The proposed Checkoff would be an industry-funded, national research and promotion program for hardwood lumber and hardwood plywood that would be administered by a board of industry members selected by the Secretary of Agriculture (Secretary). The industry will vote whether to establish the Hardwood Checkoff once the final Order is published.

The proposed changes and Order are available on the Federal Register and search for Hardwood Lumber. There is a link on that page to file comments. If you have questions, please contact the AHMI office.

AHMI Promotion & Trade Show Activities

Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc. will attend / display at the following meetings and other events to promote member companies:

Sept. 8-10: **Hardwood Federation Fly-In**, Washington, DC

Sept. 15: **Appalachian Lumbermen's Club**, Johnson City, TN

Sept. 21: **Penn York Lumbermen's Club**, State College, PA

Sept. 28-Oct. 1: **WPMA Tours**, Millersburg, OH

Oct. 7-9: **NHLA Convention**, Nashville, TN

Oct. 17-22: **High Point Furniture Market**, High Point, NC

Oct. 19: **American Society of Furniture Designers**, High Point, NC

Oct. 20-22: **Fall Meeting & Tours with the NWPCA**, Charlotte, NC

Nov. 10: **Appalachian Lumbermen's Club**, Asheville, NC

Dec. 3-4: **AHEC Mexico Convention**, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico

Jan. 12: **Appalachian Lumbermen's Club**, Hickory, NC

Feb. 2-4: **IHLA Convention**, Indianapolis, IN

Feb. 25-28: **AHMI Annual Meeting**, Naples, FL

Emerald Ash Borer Quarantine List Expands

Eight states have expanded the quarantine area for the emerald ash borer, including four in the Appalachian region.

Since June 1, five more counties have come under quarantine rules in North Carolina; three in Kentucky; five in Maryland; and two in Georgia. The action restricts the movement of ash material, hardwood firewood, and ash nursery stock following the discovery of more trees infested with emerald ash borers.

In NC: the addition of Durham, Graham, Johnston, Orange and Wilson counties brings the total number of counties under quarantine to 12.

In KY: the addition of Harlan, Madison and Mercer counties

In MD: the addition of Baltimore, Dorchester, Harford and Queen Anne's counties

In GA: the addition of Carroll County.

"This is a devastating pest to ash trees, eventually killing the trees where the insects are found," NC Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler said. "We are continuing to monitor other counties for this highly destructive pest through trapping and visual assessment of trees."

The beetle was first detected in the United States in Michigan in 2002. It is responsible for the death or decline of tens of millions of ash trees across the country. More information and maps are available at www.emeraldashborer.info.

HARDWOOD FEDERATION

Fall Fly-In Is Planned Sept 8-10 In DC

*By Dana Lee Cole
HF Executive Director*

The annual Fall Fly-In is the Hardwood Federation's biggest, most anticipated and most important event of the year. Each fall members of the hardwood industry gather in Washington D.C. to walk...and sometimes run...the halls and tunnels of Congressional office buildings to meet with Representatives, Senators and staffs from their - and other important - states to tell their stories.

Our goal is clear and consistent: To have industry leaders provide their personal and professional perspectives about what the most important issues affecting the industry are and how our businesses are being impacted....and what Congress can do about it.

Last year was one of our most successful Fly-Ins in HF history with more than 50 attendees and over 100 meetings on the Hill. We also had exceptional attendance at both the Republican HFPAC reception and the Democratic HFPAC breakfast. It's our intention to build on this excellence and make this year's Fly-In even better - and that starts with you.

Over the summer, HF staff will closely monitor the issues affecting the hardwood industry and begin to craft what our top 2-4 issues to be covered will be. We will almost certainly be talking about HR 2647, the Resilient Federal Forest Act which will most likely be through the House and on to the Senate in early September. We will also likely be discussing how rules governing the preservation of the Northern Long Eared Bat should be administered to limit impacts on harvest schedules.

Other issues will almost certainly emerge during the weeks before Congress takes their annual August break. We focus on those issues that are most pertinent to the industry at the time of the Fly-In in order to most effectively leverage the time that Fly-In participants have with the Members of Congress and their staff.

Each participant is encouraged to tell their own stories of their business, their employees, their

struggles and triumphs, and generally how the formation of Federal policies affects them. These are the personal stories that resonate and let the offices know how their individual constituents - or voters - are feeling. Hearing directly from you—face to face—helps inform the policy debates here in Washington that are happening now on issues that affect everything from access to fiber that feeds our mills to energy we use in our facilities to promoting and keeping open end markets for our products.

We hope you will take the time to join us in Washington. While it is a commitment of both resources and time, it is a commitment that can have direct impacts on your bottom line.

The Hardwood Federation staff is proud to represent the industry in Washington, D.C. and over the years we have built excellent relationships with key members of Congress who look to us for advice and counsel on issues impacting the Hardwood industry. But when members hear from you, their constituents, employers in their district, and community leaders, the message takes on a special significance and impact.

This year's Fly-In will take place on Sept. 9-10, 2015, with a welcome reception the evening of Sept 8. Anyone related to the industry is welcome to join us in D.C.

Our special rate at the host hotel expires on August 4; be sure to make plans before it is too late!! You may register by contacting the Hardwood Federation staff at 202-463-2705 or dana.cole@hardwoodfederation.com if you have any questions or would like more information.

Once you have completed registration you will be able to link directly to the Hardwood Federation Host Hotel, the Grand Hyatt Washington, for reservations.

Please contact Dana Lee Cole at dana.cole@hardwoodfederation.com or Cary Moon at cary.moon@hardwoodfederation.com if you have questions about the event.

October 20-22, 2015
Charlotte, North Carolina



NWPCA/AHMI 2015 Fall Plant Tours

Please complete one form per person.

Registration

Full Name: _____
 First name for badge: _____
 Title: _____
 Company: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Country: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____

How to Register

Fax: 703-519-4720

Scan & Email:

msullivan@palletcentral.com

Mail: National Wooden Pallet & Container Association
 1421 Prince Street, Suite 340
 Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Phone: 703-519-6104

Website: PalletCentral.com

Register Online:

PalletCentral.com/

?page=RecyclersConference

Register by September 5, 2015 and save!

Hotel Reservations

Book your room early at the Crowne Plaza Charlotte Executive Park Hotel. The NWPCA/AHMI group rate of \$149/night + tax is available through September 28, 2015 (or until the block is filled). Call: 1-866-380-0612 and mention group code **NWP** for the discounted room rate.

Cancellation Policy

Cancellations must be submitted in writing. If received by September 5, 2015, a refund will be issued, minus a \$50 administrative fee. No refunds will be issued for cancellation requests received after September 5, however, substitutions are permitted.

Plant Tours

In order to properly plan for transportation and lunch, please tell us:

- Yes, I will be participating in Wed. tours of **PalletOne** and **Pallet Resource of NC**
- Yes, I will be participating in Thurs. tours of **Edwards Wood Products** and **Jordan Supply & Lumber**.

Note: Plant tours are offered to registered conference attendees only. By checking these boxes, you release and discharge NWPCA, AHMI, PalletOne, Pallet Resource of NC, Jordan Lumber & Supply and Edwards Wood Products from any claims of bodily or other injury relating to your participation in the plant tours.

For security reasons, all participants must use bus transportation provided only by NWPCA/AHMI. All other vehicles may be denied entrance to the mills.

Rates

Check "x" your membership affiliation(s):

- Company is Member of NWPCA
- Company is Member of AHMI

NWPCA/AHMI Member

Non-member of NWPCA or AHMI

	Regular (Thru 9/5)	Late/Onsite (After 9/5)	Total
NWPCA/AHMI Member	\$445	\$595	_____
Non-member of NWPCA or AHMI	\$745	\$895	_____
		Total:	_____

Payment

- Check enclosed (payable to NWPCA)
- Please charge my credit card: Visa | Mastercard | American Express

Credit card number:

Exp. date: / CVC code:

Name on card: _____

Signature (required): _____

Credit card billing address (if different from top):

