



A unifying voice for Virginia's Forestry community.

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MORVEN LOGGING WINS VIRGINIA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION'S LOGGER MERIT AWARD

RICHMOND, VA – The Virginia Forestry Association (VFA) presents its 2020 Logger Merit Award to Morven Logging of Amelia. Since 1949, this award has recognized and honored outstanding logger performance in the Commonwealth. The recipient represents the “best-of-the-best,” exemplifying the highest professional standards as they serve as effective and positive public role models for the entire logging industry. Morven Logging previously received this award in 2007.

Joe Shank grew up on a farm as the oldest of five siblings and began his logging career when he was sixteen years old. He opened Morven Logging in 1997 cutting for Nottoway Lumber and is well-known by community members for his incredible work ethic, high quality logging jobs, and integrity amongst landowners and mills. Morven Logging is a family-run operation with Joe's wife, Elaine, manages the office and his three oldest sons, Randy, Calvin, and Curtis, manage the business's wood operations while Joe stays busy buying timber, managing his custom farming operation, and coordinating his grain hauling business. Shank's well maintained and modern fleet of trucks, including three Westar and one Kenworth road tractors, provide a positive image for the logging industry. Joe Shank is also one of three preachers at Piedmont Mennonite Church and frequently travels across the country spreading the word of Christ in fellow churches.

“Joe Shank and his family excel in meeting landowners' needs and provide a great public image of the logging community,” says Jay Phaup with Greif Packaging. “Joe's hard work ethic and honest country living set a great foundation for his future logging business,” adds John Gee with Ontario Hardwoods.

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About Virginia Forestry Association:

Founded in 1943, the Virginia Forestry Association (VFA) is a not-for-profit organization with the mission of representing Virginia's diverse forestry community and promoting the sustainable use and conservation of forest resources to ensure their longterm social benefits for all Virginians. VFA consists of a diverse membership, including forest landowners, foresters, forest products businesses, loggers, forestry consultants, and a variety of individuals and groups who are concerned about the future well-being of Virginia's forest resources and are willing to collaborate for the good of the industry. VFA seeks to be the unifying voice of Virginia's forestry community through advocacy, outreach, and communications that enhance the public's perception of the industry. Learn more at www.vaforestry.org.