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A unifying voice for Virginia's forestry community

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TRACY D. MARTIN SR. RECOGNIZED WITH VFA LOGGER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Richmond, VA – The Virginia Forestry Association awarded Tracy D. Martin Sr. of Martin Logging with the 2021 Logger of the Year Award during the 2021 Virginia Forestry Summit in Harrisonburg, Virginia this September. VFA's Logger of the Year Award recognizes and honors the performance of one or more outstanding logger(s) in the Commonwealth. Winners are chosen based on a written evaluation of the total logging operation. The recipient(s) of the Logger Merit Award represent the "best-of-the-best," and must exemplify the highest professional standards, as they serve as effective positive public role models for the entire logging industry.

Mr. Martin is a Bath County, Virginia native, where he continues to operate Martin Logging and reside with his wife of over 34 years, Donna. He founded Martin Logging with his father, Dale Martin, in 1997. Tracy Martin's uncle, Ronnie Simmons, has been working for the company for 16 years now, and Tracy's son, TJ has been working for Martin Logging part-time for years but came to work full-time for Tracy in 2020.

The crew can perform any logging prescription from single tree selections to thinnings and clearcuts. Mr. Martin is just as adept at cutting and merchandising mature hardwood sawtimber, thinning planted pine plantations, or clearcutting pulpwood tracts. Often, they are working on steep mountainous terrain primarily in Bath, Highland, Allegheny, and Rockbridge Counties. Martin Logging primarily cuts for private landowners but have also harvested multiple tracts for the USDA Forest Service. As part of their operations in the past two years they have worked in conjunction with the Natural Resources Conservation Service to create over 100 acres of Golden-Winged Warbler habitat. When local markets became available for biomass, Mr. Martin had a truck modified specifically to haul fuel chips from mountainous tracts that were inaccessible with tractor trailers. This was the first truck with this type of setup to be used in the Allegheny Highlands.

Mr. Martin is a member of the Virginia Loggers Association, Virginia Deer Hunters Association, National Wild Turkey Federation, Ruffed Grouse Society, National Rifle Association, Ducks Unlimited, and National Sporting Clays Association. When Tracy isn't working, he competes in competitive sporting clay shooting and enjoys spending time hunting and enjoying the outdoors with his family. Tracy Martin continues his commitment to his community by supporting Bath County youth athletics, often coaching baseball or basketball teams. Martin Logging previously won VFA's Logger of the Year Award in the year 2000.

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About Virginia Forestry Association:

Founded in 1943, the Virginia Forestry Association (VFA) is a not-for-profit organization that represents Virginia's diverse forestry community and promotes the sustainable use and conservation of forest resources to ensure their long-term benefits for all Virginians. VFA's diverse membership of more than 1,000 companies and individuals includes forest landowners, foresters, forest products businesses, loggers, forestry consultants, and a variety of stakeholders who value the conservation and sustainable use of forest resources as a driver of ecological, economic, and social prosperity in Virginia.

Learn more at www.vaforestry.org.

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