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Local Timber Harvesters Break New Ground

Co.) — On Friday, April 8, and Friday, April 15, the Timber Harvesting Council (THC) of Pennsylvania Resources will conduct a series of workshops on forest ecology and silviculture for local timber harvesters at the Donegal Community Center in Donegal.

The two-day workshop is the capstone course in the voluntary Pennsylvania Logger Certification Program sponsored by the THC. The council is a consortium of interests including Penn State Cooperative Extension, representatives of the forest products industry, the DER Bureau of Forestry, and NORTIM Corp., Pittsburgh logging risk-management company.

In the spring of 1992, THC efforts gained support and momentum with a grant from the USDA Extension Service in Washington to conduct a pilot program in ecology and silviculture for loggers as part of the national LEAP (Logger Education to Advance Professionalism) project.

"Loggers play a critical role in

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Pennsylvania's forests and an understanding of silviculture, which is the art and science of managing a forest ecosystem, will help promote sound forestry practices, said Jim Finley, assistant professor of forest resources at Penn State and workshop instructor. "The objective of the training effort is to sensitize loggers to environmental issues, improve lines of communication with natural resource managers, and bolster the professional image of timber harvesters."

> The two-part course is a requirement for logging contractors and counts toward certification for timber harvesters. Pennsylvania has one of the country's most comprehensive logger education programs and is fast becoming a model for the rest of the nation.

> In addition to ecology and silviculture, it includes 70 hours of training in safety, production, erosion and sedimentation control, business management and wetlands protection. In exchange for eight-hours each of field training and classroom instruction, timber

harvesters receive 1.6 logger training units (LTUs).

"Loggers who are certified by the THC will have a competitive advantage," said Yuriy Bihun, forest stewardship program associate, who has worked with the THC education committee to design the workshops.

'An added incentive is that THC certification leads to 10 percent reduction in workers' compensation rates for timber harvesters that completé the program."

The grant from USDA allowed

the THC to design an effective program that addresses the needs of not only the loggers, but of the entire forest community. To date, the ecology and silviculture workshops have been attended by 75 logging contractors and the program is poised for distribution to Pennsylvania's estimated 3,500 timber harvesters.

Cameron County logger Jim Deetscreek sums up his feelings about the program this way: "I care about the woods and I want to be the best logger in Pennsylvania - the THC sponsored certification is one way to get there."

Jim said "Loggers can make a difference, and if we don't get involved, someone else will be making the decisions about where and how we work."

For more information on the upcoming workshops, contact Timber Harvesting Council, c/o Westmoreland Conservation District, 932 St. Claire Way Rt. 30 East, Greensburg, PA 15601, (412) 837-5271.

Disaster

BETHLEHEM (Lehigh Co.) -A disaster insurance seminar entitled "The Sky (Roof) is Falling Down" will be held March 23 from 7:30 p.m.-10 p.m. here at the UGI Building, next to the Allentown-Bethlehem Airport on City Line Drive.

Does your insurance for natural and other disasters protect your investment in real estate and personal property? Will your buildings stand up through the next snow storm, gale winds, earth-

Insurance Seminar Set

quake, or thunderstorm?

This winter's snow put many barns down and many more buildings were stressed or would have gone down if a strong wind had accompanied the storms. An earthquake such as the one recently in Berks County could hit here. Most owners found out their losses were not covered by insurance.

What can you do to prevent this from happening to you or to you again?

The seminar, offered at no cost, will feature Duane Stevenson, Penn State farm management agent and Tim R. Royer, structural engineer with Timber Tech Engineering, Womelsdorf. Royer has more than 10 years practical experience in design and analysis of commercial, agricultural, and residential buildings.

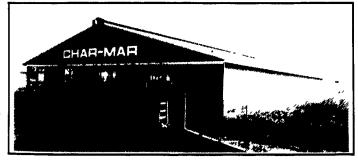
Stevenson will discuss insur-

ance. He will cover the options, how to determine what you need, how to weigh the risks as you decide what ins' ₄rchase and which to pass, and finally how to get what you need.

Royer will discuss what conditions occurred this year to cause the snow load failures we experienced. He will also discuss the most common failures he has seen over the years, how to do a walk around of your property to evaluate the strength of each building you have, methods to correct design and construction problems, and answer your individual questions. He will use slides to demonstrate his points with examples of real-life failures. He will provide guidelines on how to do a buildingby-building audit.

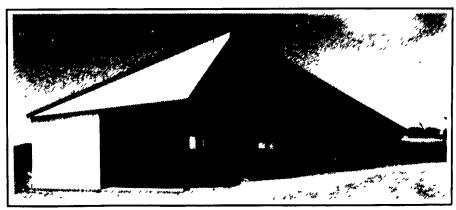
Please call the county extension office and make a reservation by March 21 if you plan to attend.

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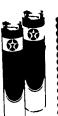


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Havoline Formula 3 Motor Oil Single Grades	55 Gal. Drum\$212.85
Texaco TDH Tractor Hyd. Oll	55 Gal. Drum\$209.55



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