

2026 MLA Educational Workshops

This year, the MLA—in cooperation with the Montana Forest Council—is sponsoring the following continuing-education workshops:



- **2026 Operational Integrity Workshop**. 6 ALP credits. fee \$20/person. March 31, Best Western Grant Creek Inn Missoula.... 8 am-1pm
This intensive, half day course provides a comprehensive foundation for a high-standard workplace safety culture, designed to equip both owners and seasoned staff with the tools they need to stay protected and compliant. Topics include: new hire injuries, driver safety awareness, drugs in the workplace, return to work policies and how to develop and maintain a written safety plan.
Instructors from Montana State Fund, Department of Criminal Investigation and MT Logging Assoc

- **Forest Stewardship Workshop for Loggers** April 14th – 16th ... 32 ALP credits... Fee \$185 for members...
\$350 non-members. MLA Office, Kalispell .. Pre-Registration Required by April 7.
The workshop will begin at 6:00pm on Tuesday and will conclude at 5:00pm on Thursday***
This workshop is the foundation of the Accredited Loggers Professional program. This program will help you communicate the key role you play in being Stewards of our forests. During the workshop you will learn about ecology associated with Montana forest types, plant ID, wildlife, Range, Silviculture, wildfire, communication, prescriptions, forest inventories and more.
You will learn how to begin assessing a forest, steps to create forest stewardship plans, use professional forestry tools and interact with other professional loggers, foresters and landowners. This workshop opens windows to allow you to view the forest from a broader perspective. You will leave with a base of knowledge that will allow you to effectively communicate with landowners and therefore be successful in competing and completing projects, meeting the goals of the landowners as well as your business goals!
This workshop is produced by Montana State University Extension Forestry and team –taught by natural resource professionals. You will enjoy getting to know these instructors as well as your fellow loggers.
The classroom portion of the workshop will be utilizing the facilities at the MLA office. Meals will be provided, (lunch and dinner), starting Tuesday evening.
Classes will run from 6pm to 8:30 pm on Tuesday; 8am-8:30 pm on Wednesday; and 8am-4pm Thursday. **What you need to bring:**
-your personal gear -Pencils and pens -Rain gear -Boots -ANSI approved hardhat

- **Advanced SFI** ... 8 ALP credits ... Fee \$20/person, April 24th @ FH Stoltze Land & Lumber, Columbia Falls. 8am-4pm This workshop will begin with a review of intent and process of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI). Discussions will include certification and how all this impacts your business!
We will then discuss Selective harvesting and how it applies to SFI. This will include Ecology, hydrology, soils, silviculture, aesthetics, recreation, economics, wildlife and the sustainability of all. We will give you tools/resources to utilize on any site you may work with. We will visit a site to apply a prescription based on Selective harvest principles-- You will help determine if the outcome is sustainable or not!
The Sustainable Forestry Initiative program manages the largest single forest certification standard in the world. SFI continues to grow and several Montana forest products companies are enrolled in this program.
This workshop satisfies the 8-hour requirement for Advanced SFI.
Presenter: Dr. Peter Kolb – MSU Extension Forestry

What you need to bring: -outdoor weather appropriate clothing-loggers tape (50’-75’)
-Pencils -A sack lunch and drinks

- **2026 Log Logic: Mill Specific Standards... 8 ALP credits... fee \$20/person. April 29, MLA Office – Kalispell 8am-4pm**

The morning will be in the class room, learning the basics of Scribner Log scaling, and log quality, and the afternoon looking at and scaling logs and mill-specific standards.

This class is designed for the contractor, his crew and agency foresters. It is an overview of Scribner, not an in-depth detailed log scaling class. You will learn the basics of Scribner scale rules, so by the end of the class, you can tell if a log is 1/3 sound, needed long butting, etc.

Instructor: Scott Kuehn – Retired Forester

Representatives from F.H. Stoltze Land & Lumber Co., Sun Mountain Lumber, Thompson River Lumber, and Weyerhaeuser will also be on hand to discuss mill specific standards.

What you need to bring:

ANSI approved hardhat, Hi Viz Vest, Safety Glasses

Log tape, Clip board and scale stick (if you have one)



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- **2026 Virtual Boundaries Workshop ... 8 ALP credits ... fee \$20/person. April 30, Kalispell-Hampton Inn 8am – 4pm ... Dress for being in the field for part of the day.**

This workshop is designed to bridge the gap between traditional "paint-on-the-ground" forestry and the digital future of timber harvesting. Contractors will gain a comprehensive understanding of **virtual boundary systems**, focusing on the transition from physical markings to **GPS-based geo-fencing** and **discernible natural boundaries**. We will cover the technical requirements for implementation—including the necessary hardware and mobile mapping software—alongside practical demonstrations on navigating "invisible" unit lines with high-precision accuracy. By the end of this workshop, participants will understand how this shift reduces operational delays and layout costs, while also learning the critical compliance standards and "tolerance zones" required to ensure resource protection and contract fulfillment in an increasingly digital workspace.

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- **Montana Forestry BMP & SMZ... 8 ALP/PLH credits ... Fee: \$20/person. 8am-4pm.**

This one-day workshop will improve your knowledge of Montana's Forestry Best Management Practices and our Streamside Management Zone Law & Rules. ALP loggers are required to take BMP/SMZ training at least **every three years**.

Classes will be May 4 at City Hall in Libby, May 5 MLA Headquarters in Kalispell, May 6 BW Grant Creek Inn, Missoula and May 7 at the Pen Center in Deer Lodge. **Bring a lunch and dress for being in the field for more than ½ the day. You must be in attendance for the entire day to receive credit for this class.**

Continuing-ed Conferences beyond the MLA's efforts to develop logger training and educational programs, conferences often provide an excellent opportunity for ALP credits. A few conferences this spring are...

2026 Forestry MiniCollege ... March 14th, Missoula... up to 4 ALP Credits

Website: [Forestry Mini-College - MSU Extension Forestry | Montana State University](https://forestry-mini-college.msu.edu/)

2026 Intermountain Logging Conference ... April 8 & 9 ... Spokane... ALP Credits available

Website: <http://intermountainlogging.org>

2026 Montana Forest Landowner Conference ... May 15, Helena ...up to 6 credits ...

Website: <https://www.foreststewardshipfoundation.org/>

SafetyFestMT... April 13-15... ALP Credits Available - Helena

For [More Information](#) including registration and agenda

2026 MLA Workshop Registration



Pre-Registration is required for ALL Workshops, some class sizes are limited
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO MONTANA LOGGING ASSOCIATION

Operational Integrity

6 ALP/PLH credits ... fee \$20/person. March 31, Missoula @ the Best Western Grant Creek Inn

Name: _____ Company _____
Email: _____ Phone _____
Address: _____

Forest Stewardship Workshop for Loggers

April 14-16, MLA Office Kalispell 32 ALP credits... Fee \$185 for members...\$350 non-members.

The workshop will begin at 6:00pm on Tuesday and will conclude at 5:00pm on Thursday – Pre-work is required prior to the start of the workshop. Registration fee Includes dinner on Tuesday & Wed and breakfast & lunch Wed & Thursday

Name: _____ Company _____
Email: _____ Phone _____
Address: _____

Advanced SFI

8 ALP Credits Fee \$20/person, April 24th @ FH Stoltze Land & Lumber, Columbia Falls

Name: _____ Company _____
Email: _____ Phone _____
Address: _____

2026 Log Logic: Mill Specific Standards

8 ALP Credits ... fee \$20/person April 29, Kalispell, MLA Office

Name: _____ Company _____
Email: _____ Phone _____
Address: _____

2026 Virtual Boundaries Workshop

8 ALP Credits Fee \$20/ person April 30, Kalispell, Hampton Inn

Name: _____ Company _____
Email: _____ Phone _____
Address: _____

MT Forestry BMP/SMZ Workshops

8 ALP Credits ... Fee: \$20/person. Classes will be May 4 in Libby, May 5 in Kalispell, May 6 in Missoula, May 7 in Deer Lodge.

Preferred Location _____ Date: _____
Name: _____ Company _____
Email: _____ Phone _____
Address: _____