

THE LOG

October / November 2023

Inside This Issue:

- 3 Save the Date - Winter Meeting
- 4 LSLA Education Funding Request
- 5 Funding Request Application
- 6 WI Legislative Report
- 7 MI Legislative Report
- 7 2024 Membership Renewals
- 8 RAHC Update
- 8 Funding Available for Forest Industry Companies
- 9 Hardwood Federation Update
- 10 Where is David Bradley?
- 10 LSLA Calendar of Events
- 11 4 Day Intro To Lumber Grading Course

LAKE STATES LUMBER ASSOCIATION

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Phone:
(920) 884-0409

Fax:
(906) 875-3724

Letter from the President

Have you heard about the EU import restrictions?

There are two major changes to export restrictions to the EU that will effect our industry. Both are outlined below:

1. The EU *did* declare that they will no longer accept hard maple (*Acer saccharum*) logs and veneer sheets from states such as Michigan, New York, North Carolina, Vermont and Wisconsin. The effort is to eradicate the importation of sap streak disease (*Davidsoniella virescens*). **However**, according to the USDA-APHIS the EU is in the process of re-vamping the restrictions to ensure they **will** continue to accept hard maple logs and veneer sheets. The Phytosanitary Certificate must include “KD” (kiln dried) and “HT” (heat treated) on the documentation. I encourage you to reach out to your local Phytosanitary inspector for more details.
2. The EU has proposed a more stringent import procedure to identify location of lumber from around the world. The proposal states that geolocation of the importation of hardwood material must be included in shipments to adhere to the new Deforestation Law that has been put in place. For more information, please visit AHEC’s website [AHEC Comment on EU Deforestation Law.pdf](#)

Jim Maltese
Stella-Jones Corporation
LSLA President
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LAKE STATES LUMBER ASSOCIATION, INC. . . PROVIDING LEADERSHIP AND EDUCATION TO ASSURE THE SUSTAINABILITY OF OUR FOREST RESOURCES

The Log is published bi-monthly by the Lake States Lumber Association, Inc.
For address corrections or to contribute news articles, opinion pages, or advertising, contact us at:
337 Superior Avenue
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Back Row (left to right): Kirby Kendrick (Kendrick Forest Products), Kyle Jeske (Richardson Hardwoods), Loren DeJonge (Constructive Sheet Metal), Peter Connor (WD Flooring), Rick Luukkala (Performance Pallet Corp.)
Front Row (left to right): Nikki Loehr, (LSLA Administrative Coordinator), Steve Peters (Rockland Flooring), Jim Maltese (Stella-Jones Corp.), Rob Paradise (Devereaux Sawmill), Fred “Butch” Fisher (AJD Forest Products)
Not Pictured: Pete Johnson (Granite Valley Forest Products), Jennifer Lu (WIDATCP)
Photo courtesy of Zach Miller, Miller Publications.

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Save the Date - January 17 - 19, 2024

Winter Meeting

The 2024 Winter Meeting is about three months away, and we are hard at work planning for another great Winter Meeting. The dates are Wednesday January 17 to Friday January 19, so mark your calendars. The location of the meeting will be held at the Hilton Appleton Paper Valley Hotel in Appleton, WI. The hotel is located in downtown Appleton, with many restaurants and bars within walking distance.

A Welcome Reception will kick off the Winter Meeting on Wednesday evening. This will be a time to network with colleagues, customers, suppliers and others. You will want to be there for this opportunity! Thursday morning and afternoon will offer informative and helpful sessions along with the annual business meeting, and Thursday evening will finish up with dinner, awards, bucket raffles and our annual live auction to help fund our membership in the Hardwood Federation.

Watch your mailbox and inbox for the Winter Meet-

ing registration and sponsorship letters, which will be coming out soon.

See you all in Appleton in January!

If you would like to contribute an item to the auction or the bucket raffle, it is a good way to give recognition to your company and help make the auction and bucket raffles a great event. Start thinking about what you can donate — sporting event tickets, vacation packages, electronic items, gift cards, sports equipment, and hand-crafted wooden items are among the things that have been donated in the past. Contact us at lsla@lsla.com if you would like to contribute an item. It will be much appreciated!



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LSLA Education - 2024 Funding Request

Dear Fellow Forestry Industry Organizations:

LSLA Education, Inc. is pleased to announce that it is now seeking applications for educational funding requests for the year 2024.

Applications must be received no later than January 9, 2024. All applicants are encouraged (but not required) to attend the LSLA Education, Inc. Board of Directors next meeting, which will be held in conjunction with the Lake States Lumber Association Annual Winter Meeting. The LSLA Education, Inc. will be meeting at the Hilton Appleton Paper Valley Hotel in Appleton, Wisconsin on Thursday, January 16, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

The funding request application is located on the next page or contact the LSLA office for a form. If you have any questions regarding the application process or to send your application in, please contact the LSLA Education, Inc. office by one of the following ways:

Phone: (920) 884-0409

Fax: (906) 875-3724

Email: lsla@lsla.com

Mailing Address:

LSLA Education, Inc.
337 Superior Avenue
Crystal Falls, MI 49920

Sincerely,

Tim Kassis
President, LSLA Education, Inc.



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LSLA Education - Funding Request Application

LSLA Education Inc
Request for contribution

Name of application organization:

Amount requested from LSLA Education Inc. \$ _____

(Check all that apply)

Organization: Corporation _____ Partnership _____ Non-Profit _____

Educational facility _____

Please list tax identification number _____

Person in Charge of Project: _____

Address: _____ Email Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

1. Please give a brief description in regards to what educational benefits your organization provides to the public in regards to the Forest Products industry?

2. Has the organization solicited funds from LSLA ED. in the past? When? If so how much was received?

3. Does this group receive any Federal, State or other funding?

Required Enclosures:

- Financial Statements

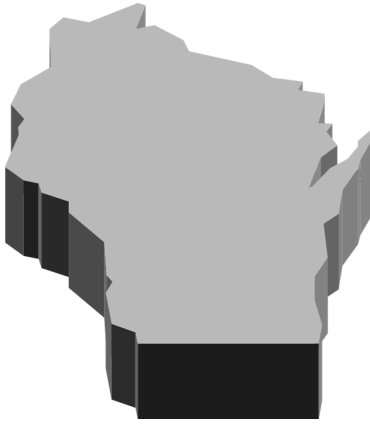
Signature

Title

Date

Wisconsin Legislative Report

By Amy Boyer, WI Legislative Consultant



Michigan Configured WI Institute for Sustainable Technology Trucks

The Wisconsin State Legislature is back from Summer recess and in the midst of its Fall legislative session. The Lake States Lumber Association is actively promoting legislation to expand the current network of routes in northern Wisconsin which allows operators hauling forest products to run "Michigan Configured" log trucks.

Senate Bill 484 authored by Sen. Cory Tomczyk (R-Mosinee) and co-authored by Rep. Jeff Mursau (R-Crivitz) adds an additional nine routes to the existing network of Michigan border timber routes. Efficient and affordable transportation continues to be a key issue for LSLA members. The addition of these routes, many along corridors where rail service was once available, will result in cost savings for shippers.

A public hearing will be held in the Senate Transportation and Local Government Committee in late October. Lake States Lumber Association members and leadership have been actively working on this issue with the Great Lakes Timber Producers Association and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for the past several months. We are thankful for this productive partnership which continues to support the forestry industry in Wisconsin.

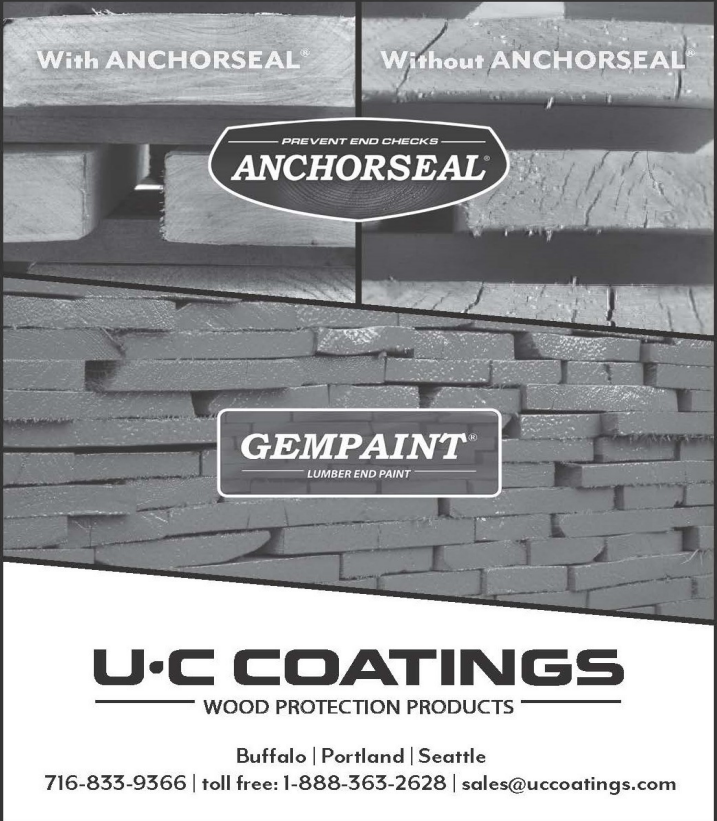
Senate Bill 449 was recently introduced by Sen. Howard Marklein (R-Spring Green) and co-authored by Rep. Travis Tranel (R-Cuba City). This bill creates a \$250,000 annual appropriation from the State's general fund ending in the 2024-25 biennium. The Wisconsin Institute of Sustainable Technology (WIST) at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point provides research, laboratory services and education to the paper industry. According to the authors, the additional funds will allow WIST to hire a technician and papermaking specialist to: provide specialized commercial paper products for 12 companies; do product recyclability certification for 30 companies; provide product accreditation for 18 companies; and help develop new commercial products for five companies. In addition, it will support the executive director to lead near-to-market forest products industry innovation and diversification. Lake States Lumber Association is on record supporting this proposal.



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Michigan Legislative Report

By Scott Everett, MI Legislative Consultant



Proposed Wilderness Area Designation:

Senate Resolution 11, introduced by Sue SHINK (D-Ann Arbor) supports Congress to designate 51,000 acres in the Upper Peninsula to become federally preserved wilderness areas. SCR 11 was recently taken up by the Senate Natural Resources and Agriculture Committee. The Resolution supports Congress to designate 16,000-acre Elcho area that's adjacent to the Porcupine Mountains, 25,000-acres known as Trap Hills, the roughly 8,000-acre Norwich Plains and 2,000 acres of Ottawa National Forest on the southwestern border of the Sturgeon River Gorge as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Federal Wilderness Areas prohibit anything mechanical. Which obviously means logging, mining and motorized vehicles. But it also means, no bicycles, baby carriages or radio flyer wagons.

Sen. Ed MCBROOM (R-Waucedah Twp.) testified in opposition to SCR 11. McBroom talked about diminishing opportunities for the forest products industry, and that communities would no longer have money remitted to them for timber sales. "If there's (an) opportunity to save pristine areas of the U.P. that are in danger of development, please, I'm not opposed," McBroom said. "But we want to live there, and we want to have jobs and we want to have opportunities and we want to manage these resources in a safe and

effective way."

The Lake States Lumber Association joined others opposing SCR 11 in committee. As of this writing, SCR 11 did not pass out of committee.

House Resolution 153

Meanwhile, over in the House, Representative Dave PRESTIN (R) Cedar River introduced House Resolution 153, which reads in part:

A resolution to oppose the designation of additional federal wilderness areas in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and to urge the United States Congress to declare the entire city of Ann Arbor a wilderness area.

Michigan Clean Energy Legislation

The package of bills SB 271-277, to make Michigan operate on 100% renewable energy by 2024 remains in the Senate Energy and Environment Committee. Rumor is they are on Draft 8. As introduced, the package removes Biomass from the definition of renewable energy source.

2024 Membership Renewals

Membership renewals for 2024 will be mailed out the beginning of November to the primary contact person listed for each member company (unless we were notified to send it elsewhere).

Dues must be paid before the Winter Meeting, so please be sure to return your membership renewal and dues payment before January 16. Contact the LSLA office (lsla@lsla.com) for a copy of your renewal if you have not received one for your company by the end of November.

You won't want to miss the important information that is sent out in *The Log* and in periodic emails. Not to mention the members' discount to our annual Golf Outing, Winter Meeting, and educational courses. And of course, there's the networking that gives each member an opportunity to grow their business.

If you would like to nominate a company for membership in LSLA, contact our office (lsla@lsla.com) and we will send them a membership invitation packet.

The Real American Hardwood Coalition

Update (RAHC) Get Real with us!



Real American Hardwood Coalition Donor Update are appearing on a variety of media platforms:

Build Your World™. That's the name of the first-ever national advertising campaign promoting Real American Hardwood® products. The campaign launched about a month ago by the Real American Hardwood Coalition on the Magnolia Network, the lifestyle channel owned by household names Chip and Joanna Gaines and entertainment conglomerate Warner Bros., to promote Real American Hardwood® flooring, cabinetry, furniture, millwork, and more.

Don't know who Chip and Joanna Gaines are? Chances are the women in your life do. The Gaines' are the stars behind the extremely popular HGTV series *Fixer Upper* that ran for five seasons and reached 16 million viewers each week. They left HGTV in 2018, at the height of the show's fame, to focus on their family and other business ventures, but launched the Magnolia Network in 2022, bringing with them their legions of fans from across the globe.

Television advertising is a first for the hardwood industry, and the Magnolia Network provides a unique opportunity to reach an extremely targeted audience of home renovation viewers and purchasers. The ads

- Magnolia Network, HGTV, and Hulu.
- HGTV & Magnolia Network TVEverywhere apps.
- Discovery+ streaming service.
- Connected TVs and devices.
- Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, and Google Search.

In just our first month, the ads already are reaching millions of consumers:

- 12 million impressions
- 99.4% video completion rate (industry average = 50%)
- 82,000 website landing page views (from 50/day to 3,000/day)
- 2¢ cost per view (industry average = 88¢)

These results show that we are successfully reaching our intended audience of highly motivated home buying and renovating consumers. We thank those financial contributors that have helped us get this far, and ask those that have not to help us maintain our momentum by contributing today. Donate at <https://realamericanhardwood.org/contribution-form/>.

Funding is Available for Forest Industry Companies

The USDA Forest Service announced the availability of \$20 million in funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act to support projects that will substantially expand and accelerate wood products and wood energy markets throughout the United States. Additional funds from annual agency appropriations will be subject to availability. The intent is to stimulate, expand, and support U.S. wood products and wood energy markets to support long-term management of National Forest System and other forest lands while enhancing the economic and environmental health of communities.

The maximum for each award is generally \$300,000; however, the Forest Service may consider awarding more (up to \$500,000) to a proposal that demonstrates the ability to have a significant and sizeable impact on wood product or energy markets. Funding up to

\$1,000,000 is available for stationary wood energy systems rated greater than 5 Megawatts in thermal output; applicants need to meet criteria outlined in instructions. Applicants must contribute matching funds equal to 100% of the Forest Service requested funds (1:1 match). USDA Forest Service funds cannot be used to fund USDA Forest Service or other federal involvement in the project.

Application information and forms are available on grants.gov and the Wood Innovations website. Applicants must be registered with the System for Award Management (SAM), which is located at <https://sam.gov/>. DO NOT go through a third party that may charge for registration. There is no charge for registering at SAM.gov. This process will take time, so please register immediately.

Hardwood Federation Update

By Dana Lee Cole, Executive Director, Hardwood Federation

Bipartisan House Lawmakers Introduce “Jobs in the Woods Act”

In recent years, the hardwood industry has identified workforce development to address chronic staffing shortages as a key hindrance to economic growth, with nearly 60% of respondents to a December 2022 survey ranking the issue as a high priority. In early September, Reps. Lori Chavez-DeRemer (R-OR) and Marie Gluesenkamp Perez (D-WA), both members of the Agriculture Committee, introduced the bipartisan [Jobs in the Woods Act](#) (H.R. 5344). This important legislation will create a grant program that promotes jobs in the understaffed timber industry and U.S. Forest Service. Specifically, the bill seeks to:

- Establish education programs for states, nonprofits, and colleges through grants of \$500,000-\$2,000,000.
- Create programs in rural and low-income areas to spur economic development, pushing significant investments into rural and underserved communities.
- Establish a broad applicant pool of trained candidates to bridge the workforce gap in the timber industry. This will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs that will promote forest management and address the industry’s supply chain challenges.
- And leverage existing resources by partnering with established programs that have a demonstrated track record of preparing students to embark on forest industry careers.

The Hardwood Federation has joined nearly [60 forestry and forest product associations](#) to sign on in support of the bill. Industry notes that “targeted workforce education and training programs have been effective recruitment tools in computer programming, utility vegetation management, and automotive industries” and could therefore address the needs of the forest sector. To bolster rural economies, the bill’s supporters state that “regional forest industry training hubs would allow participants to stay in or near their communities, which reduces the cost to participate” and allows program managers “to meet regional needs through ties to local forest product employers.”

Fortunately for industry, House champions of the bill have been vocal about their support for promoting

jobs in the forest sector. Rep. Chavez-DeRemer (R-OR) has stated that she has “heard repeatedly from constituents in forestry-related industries that a lack of workers is negatively affecting their operations.” The congresswoman goes on to remark that the bipartisan bill “will help expand education opportunities in an effort to grow our workforce.” The congresswoman’s colleague and bill cosponsor, Rep. Marie Gluesenkamp Perez (D-WA), has stated that “the only way we’ll keep the woods working for future generations is if we provide the next generation a pathway to pursue careers in forestry.” She goes on to state that **this** “bipartisan bill will make that possible and connect people to careers in this critical field that is essential to southwest Washington.”

The bipartisan list of cosponsors includes Reps. Ann Kuster (D-NH), John Rutherford (R-FL) and Andrea Salinas (D-OR). The bill has been referred to the House Education and Workforce Committee, where a path forward is not known at this time. Industry expects that a companion bill will be introduced in the Senate in the near future. That said, the bill’s champions are working to insert provisions of H.R. 5344 into the upcoming reauthorization of the farm bill. However, this remains an uphill battle in 2023 as Congress operates under a stopgap funding measure and continues to debate its top legislative priority, Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 funding bills, none of which have been passed into law since the fiscal year began on October 1. The Hardwood Federation Team will continue to monitor this and other relevant legislative actions.



Where is David Bradley?

"Recently David Bradley attended a Lyme Great Lakes golfing event to honor retired forester Bruce Maki. Bruce was also just awarded the "Retired Forester of the Year" by the Michigan Society of American Foresters."



LSLA CALENDAR OF EVENTS


December 4-7
*Hardwood Lumber
 Grading Short Course
 and
 Sawing, Edging and
 Trimming Course*
 Grayling, MI

December 6
*Budget and Board
 Meeting*
 Appleton, WI

January 17-19, 2024
Winter Meeting
 Appleton, WI

Administrative Agency Representation • Administrative Conferences • Adoptions • Affordable • Appellate
 Litigation • Asbestos Litigation • Bank Loans • Banking • Bankruptcy Filings • Bankruptcy Planning • Bonds
 • Bound • Dispute Resolution • Business Acquisitions/Merger and Sales • Business Dissolution • Business
 Entity S • Business Insurance • Business Sales • Business Start-ups • Business
 Subsidy • Capital • Child Support Enforcement • City Codes • Collection
 Matters • Commercial Lending • Community Development • Comprehensive Planning •
 Condemnation • Disputes • Condominium Developments • Conservation Easements • Conservatorships •
 Construction • Contract Preparation • Contract Review • Copyright • Collection • Deeds • Defective Products
 • Deferred Compensation Arrangements • Deferred Giving • Discrimination • Divorce • Drafting Bills and
 Amendments • Durable Powers of Attorney • Easements • Economic and Real Estate Development •
 Education Financing • Educational Trusts • Employee Benefits • Employment Agreements • Employment
 and Management • Employment Policies • Employment Related Litigation • Environmental
 Assessment Workshops • Impact Statements • Estate Tax Planning and Compliance •
 Evidentiary Hearings • Foreclosure • Foreclosures of • Grievances and
 Mortgages • Forest • Health Care Financing • HOPE VI • Hospitality Law •
 Arbitrations • Guardianship • Health Directives • Health Care Financing • HOPE VI • Hospitality Law •
 Housing Development • Housing • Labor • Leases/Leasing • Legislative Representation • Lender Support •
 Union Contracts • Labor • Leases/Leasing • Legislative Representation • Lender Support •
 Hearings • Leases/Leasing • Legislative Representation • Lender Support •
 Liquor Liability • Living Trusts • Living Wills • Loan • Marital • Marital
 Property Agreements • Mediation • Mining and Mineral • Nonprofit Borrowing •
 Monitoring Legislative Committee • Municipal Lending • Nonprofit Borrowing •
 Municipal Lending • Nonprofit Borrowing • Partnership Agreements • Partnership Agreements •
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 Shareholder Agreements • Shareholder Agreements • Supplemental Needs Trusts • Tax Abatement •
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Day 2

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Species Exemptions
Manufacturing Standards
Hands-On Grading

Day 3

Characteristics vs Defects
Kiln Dried Lumber
Hands-On Grading
Sawmill Tour

Day 4

Hands-On Grading
Railroad Tie Standards
Grading Ties

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4-DAY INTRO TO LUMBER GRADING

This four-day workshop will include a thorough study and explanation of the NHLA Rules Book, emphasizing the basics of hardwood lumber inspection and the manufacturing of railroad ties.

Who should take this course?

The value of "rules conscious" employees enables a more deliberate manufactured end product, a higher yield from the log, and a better sense of the value of the lumber being handled. This workshop gives yardmen, sawyers, edgemen, sales and office staff, and management an introduction to lumber inspection.

What do I get with this course?

The \$270 fee includes an NHLA Rules Book, coffee and muffins, lunches, handouts, and door prizes.

Please bring a notebook and pencil, eye protection, a calculator, and a lumber rule (if you have one).

Questions? Contact Randi Dodgson:
randi.dodgson@kirtland.edu
or 989-275-5000 ext.1609

More information:
kirtland.edu > events >
community education

Register here:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/4-day-intro-to-lumber-grading-registration-717145269807?aff=oddtcreator>





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