

**Virginia Loggers Association
2024 Annual Meeting
Williamsburg Lodge – August 8 – 10, 2024
Program**

Thursday August 8: 10 am– 11 pm:

- Exhibitors' setup: 10 am – 11 pm in Virginia Room ABC
- Registration Open: 2 - 7 pm in Conference Registration
- **VLA Board of Directors: 6:30 – 7:30 pm in Governor Jefferson Board Room**

Friday August 9: 8 am to 11 pm – Registration Open & Exhibits

- Exhibitors: 8 am – 5 pm Virginia Room ABC
- Registration: 7 am – 5 pm in Conference Registration
- Coffee & pastries: 7 am – 11 am near Conference Registration

Friday August 9: 9am – 11:30 am – Legal Workshop

- Legal Topics (**Northern Long Eared Bat Update; Human Resources; Employee Handbook**) for Businesses: 9 am – 11:30 am in Virginia Room DEF
- Registration On Going
- Registration Accepting Auction Donations

Friday August 9: 1-5 pm General Session

- Registration Open Until 5 pm in Conference Registration 2
- General Session: 1 pm – 5 pm in Virginia Room DEF
 - 1 – 1:10: Welcome by VLA President Frank Myers
 - 1:10 – 1:30: **Mike Davis – “Why is There a Biomass Industry?”**
 - 1:35 – 2:05: **Joe Conrad – UGA – “Proactive Solutions to Improve Safety and Reduce Costs of Timber Transportation”**
 - 2:10 – 2:30: Networking/Vendors' Time w/Refreshments in Virginia Room ABC
 - 2:35 – 3:00: **Scott Barrett – VA Tech CNRE**
 - 3:05 – 3:15: Greg Plumley – FMIC - Updates
 - 3:20 – 4:10: **Trooper Kody Childress VSP Motor Carrier Clearing House**
 - 4:15 – 4:45: **Glenn Davis – VA Department of Energy – Virginia's Energy Plan 2.0 – The Path to Affordable, Reliable, & Increasingly Clean Energy Grid**
 - 4:45 – 5:00: VLA Updates

Friday August 9: 6 – 11 pm

- Welcome Reception: 6 pm – 7 pm Virginia Foyer
- **Prayer**
- Fire on the Grill Buffet Dinner: 7 pm – 8 pm in Colony Room
- **Guest Speaker – Congressman Rob Wittman w/Introduction by Senator Bryce Reeves**
- Awards: VLA Presidents, Supporter of the Year, Log a Load
- Senator Bryce Reeves Presents Resolution
- Recognize Sponsors

- Network, eat, drink, relax until 11 pm

Saturday August 10: 7:30 am – 11:00 pm

- Registration Continues: 8 am – 1 pm in Conference Registration
- The First Colony Breakfast Buffet: 7 am - 9 am in Allegheny room

General Session: 7:30 am - noon Virginia Room DEF

- 7:30 – 8:00: Welcome & Updates from the Administration – Matt Lohr, Secretary of Agriculture & Forestry
- 8:05 – 8:35: James Sweeney – BofA – Market & Economic Outlook for Forest Products
- 8:40 -10:00 Biomass/Forestry/Energy/Policy Panel Moderated by Frank Myers
 - Policy panelists: Amanda Batten, Rob Farrell, John Lee.
 - Operations’ Panelists: Chris Brown, Vance Wright, Scott Dane, Don Bright
- 10:00 – 10:20: Networking/Vendors’ Time w/Refreshments in Virginia Room ABC
- 10:25 – 10:55: Erin Smith – BofA – Estate, Tax, & Succession Planning
- 11:00 – 11:15: Pete Hancock – Roseburg – Invited!
- 11:20 – 11:30: Nathan Arnold – BITCO – Safety in the Biomass Field
- 1:20 - Noon: Stephen Setliff – General Counsel – “Stuff You Need to Know to Survive 2024”

Saturday 8:30 am to 10:30 am – Youth Workshop & Storytelling

- 8 – Noon: Hover Ball Archery by VDWR; Historical Story Telling by Nate Boyer (Long Island Lumber); Youth Workshop by Belle Simpson (Outdoors & Indoors)
- 9:00 - noon: Adult Workshop by Rita Hyatt in Piedmont Room A

Saturday noon to 5:30 PM – Enjoy Colonial Williamsburg, Busch Gardens, Shopping, networking, and much more!

Saturday 1:30– 3:30 pm August 13 - SHARP Logger Required Course

- 1:30 – 3:30 pm: Required SHARP Logger CE by VDOF & VT in Piedmont Room C

Saturday 5:30 – 11 pm August 10:

- 5:30 - 6:30 pm: Reception in Virginia Foyer
- 6:30 pm: Fife & Drum Welcomes Guests to Dinner
- Frank Myers Moderates Session, Opening Prayer
- 6:45 pm: Flavors of Tidewater Buffet dinner in Virginia Room DEF
- Guest Speaker Scott Dane
- Frank Myers Announces President’s Award
- 8:00 pm Live Auction by Nicely Auction + Silent Auction in Virginia Room DEF – ALL PROCEEDS GO TO LOG – A – LOAD FOR KIDS!
- 9:00 pm to 11 pm – Colonial DJs Music, Dancing, Networking in Colony Room

Sunday August 11:

- 10:00 am - Exhibitors and VLA must complete removal
- Check out or stay an extra day or two!

****NOTE: Program Eligible for SHARP Logger & SAF credits. SHARP = Up to 11.5 CEs; SAF Up to 8.5 CEs**