

Marshall County Timber Harvesting Notification

Background Information

Marshall County is experiencing difficulties maintaining certain county roads. It is vital that the county be able keep these roads passable and safe for all of the citizens using the roadways. The forest industry, along with all other commercial users of the roads, have shared responsibility to prevent deterioration of roads built to the appropriate standards. As the county is considering ways to protect the road system, the forest industry would like to propose an alternative. Barbour County came to a similar agreement with the industry several years ago which seems to be working well and has prevented the need for a formal harvesting permit system.

Issues

- 1) Maintaining access for residents and other users of unpaved roads
- 2) Damage to low weight bridges
- 3) Pot-hole damage to paved roads
- 4) Mud on paved roads and highways
- 5) Leaving debris on the right-of-ways

The industry asks for the opportunity to police itself by recommending the guidelines listed below for loggers to use when harvesting timber in Marshall County which fronts county roads or when they will be using county roads to haul timber. These standards will address the stated problems and help maintain the integrity of the county road system. These guidelines will be communicated to all known wood utilizing facilities, loggers, foresters, and consulting foresters operating in the county.

Guidelines

Timber Harvesters in Marshall County will:

- 1) Notify the county engineer via the attached form **prior** to harvesting a tract of timber which fronts county roads or when they will be using county roads to haul timber. This form can be returned via U.S. mail, fax, email or hand delivery to the address indicated on the form.
- 2) Route trucks around low weight bridges on county roads and notify the county engineer immediately if bridge damage is noticed.
- 3) Notify the county engineer immediately should pot-holes or pavement distress be present or begin to form on the county roadway.
- 4) During wet weather, monitor conditions and take steps to minimize damage to the roadway and mud on the highway.
- 5) Post signs to warn of trucks entering the highway and mud on the highway as needed.
- 6) Not use the right-of-way for loading timber, or parking equipment or trucks.
- 7) Remove any logging debris from right-of-ways.
- 8) The Contractor shall, at his discretion, document the current conditions of all county roadways in the timber harvesting area to be used by the Contractor. This documentation shall be in the form of photographs or video footage. Evidence of damaged roadways may be submitted with the

notification form in order to document this damage with the county prior to harvesting.

- 9) Failure to comply with terms and conditions herein prior to beginning operations may result in a bonding requirement in an amount to be determined by the Marshall County Commission.

These guidelines and their implementation will be reviewed as needed by the county engineer and representatives of the forest industry in Marshall County. The engineer will report on the progress of the process to the County Commission as necessary. Changes to these procedures may be made as needed. The effective date of this notification procedure is October 15, 2010.

Points of Contact for Further Information or to Report a Problem

Mr. Robert X. Pirando, P.E.
Marshall County Engineer
424 Blount Avenue
Guntersville, AL 35976
Phone: (256) 571-7712
Fax: (256) 571-7713
E-mail: mcaeng@yahoo.com

Mr. Keith Plott, R.F.
L P Building Products
902 Main Street S.E.
Hanceville, AL 35077
Phone: (256) 352-1745
Fax: (256) 352-1796
E-mail: keith.plott@lpcorp.com

Rick Oates
Alabama Loggers Council
555 Alabama Street
Montgomery, AL 36104
Phone: (334) 481-2130
Fax: (334) 262-1258

Marshall County Timber Harvesting Notification

Return this form to the address below via fax, mail or email to the address below **prior** to harvesting timber in Marshall County.

Marshall County Engineer
424 Blount Avenue
Guntersville, AL 35976
Phone: (256) 571-7712
Fax: (2456) 571-7713
Email Address: mcaeng@yahoo.com

Company Name: _____

Contact: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Location of Tract: _____

Anticipated Date of Commencing Harvest: _____

Anticipated Date of Completing Harvest: _____

Applicant agrees to abide by the following:

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- 2) Route trucks around low weight bridges on county roads and notify the county engineer immediately if bridge damage is noticed.
- 3) Notify the county engineer immediately should potholes or pavement distress be present or begin to form on the county roadway.
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