Missouri Department of Conservation
2025 Logger of the Year Award

The Missouri Department of Conservation is seeking nominations for the *Missouri Department of Conservation State Logger Award.* This award recognizes loggers who are doing an outstanding job working with landowners and foresters.

Two Award Levels – Regional and State

- **Regional Logger Award** - is chosen from each MDC region (one award issued per region) and the loggers must be nominated by a professional forester. Landowners should work with their local forester to submit a nomination.

- **State Logger Award** - is chosen from the winners of the Regional Logger Award based on the narratives and a review of the candidates' work areas.

Nomination process:

Nominations should be a narrative (two pages or less) explaining the logger's abilities, skills, willingness to work with others, and meeting the criteria listed below.

How the awards are chosen:

1. The Regional Logger Award winner will be chosen by an odd-numbered panel of professional foresters appointed by each MDC Regional Administrator. The logger who receives the majority of the votes is the winner. If the panel cannot come to a decision, the Regional Administrator will decide the outcome.

2. The State Logger Award winner will be chosen from the regional winners by a panel selected by MDC's Forest Products Program Supervisor. If the panel cannot come to a decision, the Forest Products Program Supervisor will assist.

Criteria for choosing the award:

1. Must be a logger operating in Missouri.

2. Must have completed the *Professional Timber Harvester's Training Program* and be current with the qualifications (or equivalent training if the logger is an out of state resident.)

3. Must be practicing sustainable forest management, have good forest product utilization, and are implementing best management practices.

4. Must have low residual tree damage on their harvests.

5. Must be practicing safe work habits and preferably using all the safety equipment.

6. Must have no recent complaints or issues working with landowners and foresters on timber sales.

Some things to remember:

- Production amounts do not matter.
- The logger does not have to be a member of any professional organization.
- If there are no loggers in a Region that meet the criteria listed above, then none should be nominated for the award.

Deadline and how to submit a nomination:

Nominations for the Regional Logger Award are due by March 15, 2025 to the respective Regional Administrator (contact information on next page). Winners in the Regional Award category will then be sent to Mike Morris by April 1, 2025.

Awards

The *Regional Logger Award* winners will receive a framed certificate, and a safety pack consisting of a helmet system, gloves, safety glasses and chainsaw chaps. Regional staff should work with local media to ensure all winners have their photos and a short article in as many media outlets as possible.

The *State Logger Award* winner will receive a framed art print with a label describing the award, and a chainsaw. The award will be presented to the winner by State Forester Michael Bill at an event of his choosing. The state award winner will be announced in a short article that will be published through MDC media outlets.

Questions should be addressed to Mike Morris, Forest Products Program Supervisor at 573.522.4115 x3117 or mike.morris@mdc.mo.gov

Central Region
Kevin Borisenko
3500 East Gans Road
Columbia, MO 65201
Kevin.Borisenko@mdc.mo.gov

Kansas City Region
Deb Burns
12405 SE Ranson Road
Lee's Summit, MO 64082
Debra.Burns@mdc.mo.gov

Northeast Region
Danny Hartwig
3500 S. Baltimore
Kirksville, MO 63501
Danny.Hartwig@mdc.mo.gov

Northwest Region
Bryan Gragg
701 James McCarthy Drive
St. Joseph, MO 64507
Bryan.Gragg@mdc.mo.gov

Ozark Region
Sarah Medlock
551 Joe Jones Boulevard
West Plains, MO 65775
Sarah.Medlock@mdc.mo.gov

Southeast Region
Matt Bowyer
2302 county park Drive
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
Matt.Bowyer@mdc.mo.gov

Southwest Region
Gregory Collier
2630 N. Mayfair
Springfield, MO 65803
Gregory.Collier@mdc.mo.gov

St. Louis Region
Gary Calvert
2360 Highway D
St. Charles, MO 63304
Gary.Calvert@mdc.mo.gov