



**West Virginia Division of Forestry**  
**www.wvforestry.com**  
**Joe Manchin III, Governor**  
**Randy Dye, Director/State Forester**

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### **Landowners Need Exemptions to Harvest Timber on Their Properties**

*Beckley, W. Va.* – Officials at the West Virginia Division of Forestry remind landowners that if they intend to harvest timber on their own properties they must first obtain a Timber Harvesting Exemption from the Beckley Regional Office.

This exemption requirement is part of the Logging Sediment Control Act of 1992, which states that anyone conducting a logging operation or buying timber or logs for resale is required to be licensed by the Division of Forestry.

The total stumpage value for timber removed by an individual under an exemption may not exceed \$15,528 within the calendar year for which the exemption is issued.

A completed exemption application along with a Timbering Operation Notification Form must be submitted for approval to Forestry's Beckley office prior to any timber harvesting. Application forms may be obtained by calling (304) 256-6775.

Exceptions to this law include:

- Collecting Christmas trees.
- Ground disturbing construction activities, including well sites, access roads and gathering lines for oil and natural gas operations.
- Severing trees to maintain existing, or during construction of rights of way for public highways or public utilities or any company subject to the jurisdiction of the federal energy regulatory commission *unless* the trees severed are being sold or provided as raw material for commercial wood product purposes.
- Severing of trees by an individual on his or her own property for the individual's use provided that the individual does not have the severing done by a person whose business is the severing or removal of trees.

For more information about timber harvesting exemptions, call the Beckley Regional Office at (304) 256-6775.

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**Regional Offices**  
**Farmington (304) 825-6983**  
**Beckley (304) 256-6775**  
**Milton (304) 743-6186**