

CERTIFIED WOOD PROGRAM

Create Additional Value for Your Timberland



INDEPENDENT
STAVE COMPANY





“We created this program to offer assistance to landowners ready to certify their forest and **we will pay more** for certified white oak logs we purchase, which benefits landowners and loggers. We want to do our part to support sustainability efforts.”

– *Garret Nowell,*
Independent Stave Company

HOW IT WORKS

1. Landowners certify their forest
2. ‘Preferred Supplier’ Loggers use Best Management Practices to harvest
3. Independent Stave Company pays a premium for certified logs, **benefiting both landowner and logger**

HOW TO GET STARTED

LANDOWNER STEPS

Certify the Forest that Sustains You



When you are ready to get started, contact:

Jeffrey F. Lewis

Manager of Forestry and Land Management

C: 606.548.7594

Jeffrey.Lewis@independentstavecompany.com

The Path to Certification

DECIDE WHICH CERTIFICATION SYSTEM TO USE.

It's most likely to be the American Tree Farm System or possibly the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Certification.

PICK A PATH TO CREATE A MANAGEMENT PLAN.

Choose from three options, and remember you don't need to do this on your own - call us.

1. State government land assistance foresters

- No expense
- Can require a delay to get started

2. Consulting foresters

- Involves an expense to the landowner
- Typically a faster response

3. Independent Stave Company Land Assistance Program

- Can provide services especially in areas where consulting foresters are not as readily available. Note: this is currently focused on forests within Kentucky, although ISC is working to expand the geography.
- No expense to the landowner for an initial assessment. If the landowner qualifies and is willing to apply and wait for cost-share assistance, Independent Stave Company Land Assistance Program can carry out key management approved by the cost-share to help pave the way for future harvests of certified wood.
- Response usually in 1-2 weeks to get started

CARRY OUT THE MANAGEMENT PLAN.

This includes using "Best Management Practices" that may be verified periodically. Landowners are welcome to contact Independent Stave Company for assistance when concerned about anything that has proven difficult to carry out.

HARVEST AND SELL CERTIFIED WOOD WITH A TRAINED LOGGER TO CAPTURE PREMIUM VALUE.

Independent Stave Company can help connect you to trained loggers with an established positive reputation.

LOGGER STEPS

Become a Preferred Supplier



Preferred Supplier Program

This program by Independent Stave Company recognizes ‘Preferred Suppliers’ who hold active training status within their state and have committed to use Best Management Practices when harvesting. Any loggers who are enrolled in the program are eligible for the premiums offered by Independent Stave Company for certified white oak logs – an important way to reward those committed to

To learn how to become a Preferred Supplier, contact:

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Sustainability Manager
C: 573.489.7971
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sustainability efforts. In addition, Preferred Suppliers are the first loggers Independent Stave Company buyers recommend when a landowner asks for a contact.

Did you know?

Landowners can pursue certification for their land at any time.

You don't have to wait for a harvest, but you can also be certified leading into a harvest. Once certified, there is not a “waiting period” before a harvest can move forward. Landowners and Loggers are welcome to contact our team to find out more before harvesting a tract of land.



WHY WE CARE



Economic Benefit

Landowners and loggers directly benefit from doing their part to support forest sustainability.



Protecting Biodiversity

Protecting the diversity of trees, plants and animals increases overall forest health and resilience.



Reduced Soil Erosion

This benefits forest longevity by keeping topsoil stationary and accessible for trees and plants to grow.



Protects Water Quality

Keeping sediment out of our waterways keeps water clean for wildlife and human use, and also contributes to overall forest health.



Increases Logger Safety

Logging is an important and yet dangerous profession; it is paramount we take care of the logging professionals serving our industry.



Promotes Reforestation & Forest Regeneration

Key to sustainability, this increases forest longevity and protects key species like oaks through an intentional management plan.

HOW CERTIFICATION HELPS

Certified wood can be sold for a premium.

Sustainable harvesting creates income now and in the future, while also protecting against controversial sources of wood entering the forest products industry.

Harvests will be carried out by trained logging professionals who implement BMPs*. Logger training includes a focus on notable species to an area's biodiversity and how to protect them.

Important BMPs* include stabilizing log decks, skid trails and stream crossing approaches to avoid damage.

Key focus on protecting "streamside management zones," the forest's natural water filtration system, during timber stand improvement and harvests.

Landowners with certified forests work with trained logging professionals who are able to carry out BMPs* established to better ensure safety.

Creation of a management plan demystifies the process of effective management in a timeline that can be carried out reasonably.





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