



# The Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) Best Management Practices Overview



Louisiana Sustainable Forestry Initiative

[www.laforestry.com](http://www.laforestry.com)

What are Forestry Best Management Practices (BMPs)?

BMPs are voluntary forestry management practices designed to safeguard the water quality and soil productivity of the forests of Louisiana. Some mandatory guidelines for protecting wetlands, scenic rivers etc. are also included in the BMP Manual).

The guidelines are a private-public joint effort that included the Louisiana Forestry Association (LFA), Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) and Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF).

The BMPs are organized into a practical field manual format designed to provide forest landowners, logging professionals and forest industry with water quality and soil protection guidelines for forestry management activities.

You can request a copy of the BMP manual from the LFA, LDAF or you can download the manual from the LDAF website at no charge. [BMP manual](#)

Is training available?

The Louisiana Forestry Association in partnership with the Louisiana Logger's Council sponsors specialized training designed to equip forestry professionals, landowners and logging professionals with the knowledge they need to fully implement BMPs. BMP training is a key component to logging professionals receiving a designation as "Master Logger" in Louisiana.

What should a forest owner do to insure these principles are followed in connection with forestry activities?

Specify in any contracts with forestry or logging professionals performing operations on your property that LA Forestry BMPs be implemented. Seek the services of forestry or logging professionals who have been certified as "Master Loggers" by the LFA and LA Loggers Council.

Additional information can be found at:

<http://www.aces.edu/forestry/>



*Culverts and road building are part of the BMP guidelines found in the Louisiana Recommended BMP manual.*



*Corrective actions following harvesting activities protect your land from erosion and damage from log trucks.*