

**Department of Conservation and Recreation
Division of State Parks and Recreation
740 South Street, PO Box 1433
Pittsfield, MA 01202**

**FY 2026 Timber Harvester License
Application Expires June 30, 2026**

PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING A MASSACHUSETTS TIMBER HARVESTING LICENSE:

1. Fill out the attached license application:

Fill out all sections of the attached forms; incomplete applications will be returned to applicant. M.G.L. c. 132, §46 a provision of the Forest Cutting Practices Law, provides: “No person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of harvesting timber or other forest products for hire or profit shall cut such products on land devoted to forest purposes and for purposes not exempted by [M.G.L. c. 132, § 44] without first obtaining a license to do so from the director who is hereby authorized to issue such licenses, and to withhold or revoke such licenses, after hearing for failure to comply with sections 42 to 46, inclusive.”

The legislature provides a penalty of not more than \$500.00 for each violation of this law, which requires that a license be outstanding in the name of the person, firm or corporation actually cutting forest products, whether on the land of the license holder or the land of another.

2. Mail license application and fee to:

MA Timber Harvesting License
Dept. of Conservation and Recreation
PO Box 1433
Pittsfield, MA 01202

The fee for this license is \$15.00 for Massachusetts residents and \$30.00 for non-residents; this fee is non-refundable.

Pay with check or money order (do not send cash) made payable to: Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Timber Harvesting License

3. Testing and Continuing Education Requirement

M.G.L. c. 132, § 46 provides: “Applicants [for timber harvesting licenses] shall demonstrate general familiarity with the laws of the commonwealth that concern timber harvesting and provide the director [of the Department of State Parks and Recreation] such reasonable information as he [or she] may require concerning the amount and type of forest products cut by [the applicant] during the previous year.” This provision refers to loggers of sawtimber and cordwood, including those connected with sawmills.

Therefore, prior to the issuance of a harvesting license, all applicants must initially pass a timber harvester licensing exam. If your license has expired, then you must also retake and pass the next available timber harvester exam. You will be notified of the upcoming exam schedule. Applicants that have been continuously licensed for three or more years may waive the examination requirement by showing proof of meeting the continuing education requirements. See attached “Continuing Education Summary.”

4. License Period

All timber harvester licenses are issued on a fiscal year calendar. Annually, courtesy renewal notices are only sent by email; although applicants may request to be mailed a renewal application via US Post at time of license renewal. Yearly licenses are valid from July 1st thru June 30th.

****Please note that all licenses expire on June 30th of each year****

Continuing Education Summary

List continuing education received within the past 3 years in table below and attach supporting documentation of the educational event such as certificates of attendance or agenda.

Course/Class/Training/Workshop/Name	Location	Date	Hours	Instructor/Sponsor

Total Hours: _____

Applicant signature: _____ **Date:** _____

RECERTIFICATION FOR EVERYONE

All licensed harvesters must accumulate nine (9) continuing education hours within each three (3) year recertification period.

CONTACT HOURS

Each licensed harvester is required to attend nine hours of continuing education within each three-year recertification period. Each sixty minutes of training equals one "contact hour" of continuing education. Three (3) of these nine (9) hours, must focus on the Massachusetts Forest Cutting Practices Act M.G.L. chapter 132, sections 40 to 46 - Rules and Regulations 302 CMR 16.00: FOREST CUTTING PRACTICES, sponsored by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Service Forestry Program. The remaining six (6) hours of continuing education can focus on a wide variety of subjects including, but not limited to: wetland identification, wetland values and functions, rare species habitat protection, safety, business management, equipment maintenance, safety trainings, first aid/CPR, new equipment technologies, communication skills, natural resource management, forest product measurement, grading lumber or standing timber, wildlife management, and forestry engineering.

FY 2026 APPLICATION FOR MASSACHUSETTS TIMBER HARVESTING LICENSE
Expires June 30, 2026

I, _____, being 18 years of age or older, hereby apply to the
(Print Full Name)

Director of State Parks and Recreation for (check the appropriate box):

- ☐ a license for the harvesting of forest products for myself.
- ☐ a license for the harvesting of forest products under the coverage of the _____ company.

NOTE- All licenses expire on June 30th of each year. This application is for a (check the appropriate box):

- ☐ License Renewal must be postmarked by August 31, 2025
- ☐ New license
- ☐ Expired license

New or Expired license applicants are required to take the next available exam.

- ☐ I would like exam study material and test dates/locations mailed to me
- ☐ I will use the internet for study material and listing of test dates/locations
<https://www.mass.gov/guides/massachusetts-timber-harvesting-license-program>

License Fee: \$15.00 for Massachusetts residents, \$30.00 for Non-Residents

Pay by check or money order (NO CASH) made payable to: Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Mail Fee and Application to: MA Timber Harvesting License
Dept. of Conservation and Recreation
PO Box 1433, PITTSFIELD, MA. 01202
ATTN: Tom Ryan, DCR Forester

ALL ATTACHED FORMS MUST BE COMPLETED AND SUBMITTED WITH THE APPLICATION

STATEMENT OF TAX COMPLIANCE for TIMBER HARVESTING LICENSE

Pursuant to Chapter 233 of the Acts of 1983, section 36:

I _____, individually or as authorized signatory for
(Applicant)
_____, whose principal place of business is at
(Name of Business)

(Street, Town, State)

do hereby certify under the pains and penalties of perjury that _____
(Name of Business)

has complied with all the laws of the Commonwealth relating to taxes. "Name of Business" may be the name of the applicant when acting individually or there is no formal business title/company name.

(Applicant Signature)

(Date)

Please provide the contact information where you would like to receive the license, notifications for continuing education and renewal notices. This information will be used to produce the Directory of Massachusetts Licensed Timber Harvesters.

BUSINESS /FOREST PRODUCTS INFORMATION

Applicant Name: _____

Firm/Business Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____
(Address Line 1) (Town/City) (State) (Zip Code)

Contact Person (if other than applicant): _____

Telephone (include area code): _____

Email Address: _____

Do you want contact info to be listed in the directory? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you want to be on the bid list for Commonwealth of MA forestry projects (DCR and DFW)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Note: A valid email address is required for bid list registration.

1. REQUIRED: INFORMATION FOR THE PERIOD FROM JULY 1, 2024, THROUGH JUNE 30TH 2025.

Please check the appropriate choices listed below:

A. SAWTIMBER LOGGER _____ B. PULPWOOD LOGGER _____ C. FIREWOOD DEALER WHOLESALE _____ RETAIL _____
D. SAWMILL OPERATOR _____ E. PALLET MANUFACTURER _____ F. WHOLE TREE CHIPPER _____

2. PRODUCTION ESTIMATED ANNUAL

A. _____ THOUSAND BOARD FEET MBF

B. _____ % HARDWOOD

C. _____ % SOFTWOOD

D. _____ FIREWOOD CORDS

E. _____ PULPWOOD CORDS

F. _____ WHOLE TREE CHIPS TONS

3. WORK HISTORY

A. How many years has your company been operating? _____ years.

B. How many workers do you employ? including yourself _____ employee(s)

C. Did you hold a valid Massachusetts Timber Harvesting License for the last fiscal year? ☐ Yes ☐ No

D. Are you an employee of the applicant? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please circle the equipment that you use in your day-to-day operation: Log truck, Forwarder, Whole tree chipper, Feller Buncher,

Skidder, Horses, Portable Sawmill, Other _____.

NO LICENSE WILL BE ISSUED WITHOUT THE ABOVE REQUIRED INFORMATION

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY;

FY2026 EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2026

LICENSE NUMBER _____

CHECK NUMBER _____

DATE OF ISSUE _____

CEU CYCLE YEAR _____