

MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATIONS

Full (Manufacturing) Membership

Individuals, firms and corporations doing business within the Commonwealth of Virginia in the manufacture and production of forest products.

Examples: *Sawmills; planing mills; loggers; manufacturers of veneer, plywood, millwork, and furniture; pallet plants; wood treating facilities; truss fabricators, miscellaneous wood product plants, etc.*

Dues Investment: Equivalent board footage rate of \$90.00 per million board feet produced annually with a minimum production of 2 million bf/year and a maximum production of 20 million bf/year.

NOTE: *Please see separate schedule for equivalency conversion for other forest products.*

Associate Membership

Individuals, firms and corporations that are not actively engaged in the manufacture of Virginia forest products but interested in the welfare of the the Commonwealth's forest products industry.

Examples: *Lumber brokers; out of state manufacturers; machinery and equipment dealers; providers of industry services and supplies; banks; insurance companies, etc.*

Dues investment: \$225.00 per year.

Life Membership

An honorary classification given by the Board of Directors to individuals who are now retired or inactive in the forest products industry but during their careers distinguished themselves through service to the Virginia Forest Products Association.

*Membership Application Included
On Separate Card*

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VIRGINIA
FOREST
PRODUCTS
ASSOCIATION



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The Association, chartered in 1958, is a non-profit, non-governmental, privately supported association of individuals, firms, and corporations having an interest in the Commonwealth of Virginia's lumber and forest products industry.

OBJECTIVES

- Create a better understanding of the importance of the lumber and forest products industry to the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- Encourage and promote all phases of securing and maintaining our timber and log supply.
- Encourage and promote more profitable production and distribution of our native lumber and forest products.
- Provide a collective voice regarding governmental programs and legislation that affects the lumber and forest products industry.
- Disseminate information about new and latest markets for lumber and forest products.
- Disseminate information about machinery, methods, laws, etc., that affect or apply to the lumber and forest products industry.
- Conduct educational programs to help all persons engaged in or associated with the lumber and forest products industry to be more efficient and effective.

PROGRAMS

The Virginia Forest Products Association provides its members with numerous services to help accomplish its objectives:

Legislative and Governmental Activities

Direct Legislative Input - The Association provides input concerning legislation affecting our industry to both the state General Assembly and our federal legislators in Washington DC. VFPA also furnishes information to various state and federal regulatory agencies to help them better understand the problems and characteristics of our industry. The Association serves on various governmental advisory boards to enable the forest products industry's "voice" to be heard. These efforts are combined with other organizations as necessary to increase the effectiveness of industry related issues.

Wood Products Political Action Committee (PAC) - In 1986 the Association formed the Wood Products Political Action Committee to continue with our added emphasis on increased legislative and governmental effectiveness. Contributions to the PAC are on a voluntary basis, and are used to assist candidates who have a proven record of support for the forest products industry.

Support of Industry Related Coalitions - In today's legislative climate, it benefits organizations to work together on issues of mutual interest. VFPA recognizes this and reaches out to develop strategic liaisons with numerous groups, from general business to agriculture to trucking. A prime example of this is our work with **The Forest Council of Virginia** (represented by the Appalachian Forest Management Group, Forestry Task Force for Water Quality, Pallet Manufacturers of Virginia, Virginia Chapter - Association of Consulting Foresters, Virginia Chapter - Society of American Foresters, Virginia Christmas Tree Growers Association, Virginia Forestry Association, and the Virginia Wood Preserver's Advisory Council).

Public Communications

The Association actively promotes the importance of the forest products industry to the public in general by participating in youth programs, promotion of industry public relations projects, providing educational advisory input, working with the media as related to the forest products industry, as well as numerous other activities.

VFPA also participates with and financially supports cooperative efforts of other groups in developing and implementing programs and activities designed to present effective and positive public communications regarding Virginia's forest products industry.

Major Meetings

Annual Convention - Normally held in late January or early February, the Annual Meeting includes the yearly business meeting of the Association, and an opportunity for fellowship and a personal exchange of ideas between members. The meeting also presents an educational program with subjects of definite interest to all industry personnel.

Summer Conference - Normally held in July or September, the Summer Conference incorporates many of the same features as the Annual Convention, but located at one of the fine resort facilities located in Virginia.

Productivity Conference (EXPO Richmond)

East Coast Sawmill & Logging Equipment Exposition - Held biennially in May in even-numbered years, the Exposition, co-sponsored by Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Cooperative Extension Service, is recognized as one of the premier educational shows of its type in the country. The purpose of the show is to introduce wood industry personnel to the latest developments in harvesting and manufacturing equipment, supplies and services.

Specifically, it provides an opportunity for operators to:

- See new equipment exhibited and operated.
- Talk with manufacturers' representatives about equipment and needs.
- Make comparisons between their current equipment and the newest technology in order to increase the efficiency of their operations and to improve product quality.

EXPO Richmond, one of the country's largest equipment shows, features over 335 exhibiting companies with exhibits covering over 15 acres and historically draws over 10,000 visitors from nearly every state in the U. S. as well as many foreign countries.

Other Educational Activities

Short Courses & Seminars - Because trained and competent workers make up our industry's most valuable asset, VFPA's continuing education courses comprise a significant portion of its program of work. Either alone or in cooperation with other organizations, VFPA has sponsored courses with such diverse topics as maintenance, lumber grading, hazardous chemical certification training, lumber drying, etc.

Member Communications

Newsletter - Published bi-monthly, VFPA's publication contains many items of timely importance to the forest industry in the Commonwealth. Some of the information includes new product development & techniques, technical information, membership activities, legislative and regulatory updates, classified ads, upcoming meetings, economic forecasts, news from related government agencies and educational institutions, plus general news.

Other - The Association stays in constant touch with the membership and remains readily available to answer member questions and to address their concerns.

Lumber and Forest Products Promotion

The Association actively promotes the use of Virginia lumber and forest products through ongoing projects such as:

Membership Directory & Buyers Guide - Thousands of copies of the Directory have been distributed - at no charge - to members and associated industries as well as to potential lumber buyers and industry representatives throughout the region, other States and foreign countries.

Information about each member includes: annual production, primary manufacturing equipment, plant locations and product description (including species, size and specialty items.) Associate members' information includes the description of the product or service provided, names of primary sales reps and/or buyers and a special listing of products and services offered. The Commonwealth Resource Pages contain valuable information about programs of the Virginia Department of Forestry; Virginia Tech; and the International Marketing Program of the VA Dept. of Agriculture & Consumer Services that are available to serve the industry's needs (including names and phone numbers of key personnel).

Other Activities - The Association encourages expansion of the Virginia forest products market through the promotion of exports to other countries.

Our Program of Work Is Constantly Changing

Through the input of our membership and the Board of Directors, the Association continues to strive to monitor current programs for effectiveness as well as develop new initiatives to promote the general well being of the industry.

"Thanks to your support of Virginia's multi-billion dollar forest products industry and through the cooperative efforts of all, we can continue providing the thousands of forest products Virginians and Americans use everyday as well as promote the sound management of our renewable forest resources."