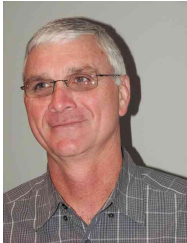


ATPA

MEMBER UPDATE

March 31B, 2020 Issue

Dear Members & Affiliates:



You are receiving back-to-back issues **Member Update** given the quickly changing news and information related to COVID-19 and how the response relates to our industry. These will be posted on our FB pages ([ATPA/ARK PRO LOGGER](#), and our [IN-Woods-Expo](#) page), alongside other information. If you are not following us on FB, I encourage you to do so. We will also begin posting our **Member Updates** on our website at [arkloggers.com](#)

Please stay connected and feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns, or even useful information you think our members would appreciate. All calls to our main office number, 501-224-2232 will be routed to my cell phone, as will your emails to me directly.

In deep appreciation, concern and hopefulness,

Larry Boccarossa, Executive Director



Visit our website



Ark Pro Logger Training Workshops

CODIV-19 BEST PRACTICES:

WORKSHOPS IN THE COMING MONTH(S) POSTPONED

As a reminder, and per earlier correspondence and announcements on our website, **Ark Pro Logger** workshops have been postponed through the beginning of April, and we anticipate there may be a need to do so in the coming weeks as well. We will work to reschedule those once we have a better idea of what the CODIV best practices will entail to contain the spread. We will keep you informed via regular electronic correspondence, via our FB page (linked below), and also on our [website](#). We appreciate your patience and understanding - we are all in this together.



COVID-19 News - FEDERAL

SBA Paycheck Protection ACT

The stimulus bill passed by Congress and signed by the President last week contains a number of opportunities for business to receive financial support if their operations are impacted by COVID-19. One of those that may be of interest to our members – and your suppliers – is the Paycheck Protection Act. The summary below was developed by Eric Kingsley, who in addition to serving as Northeast Region Coordinator for the Forest Resources Association (FRA), works as a consultant with the forest industry.

This information was developed by [Innovative Natural Resource Solutions LLC](#) for our clients and friends, using publicly available information. Please be sure to consult your attorney and / or financial advisory prior to entering into any contracts, and be aware that terms of any loan should be carefully reviewed.

What is the SBA Paycheck Protection Program?

- Title 1 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act is the *Keeping American Workers Paid and Employed Act*, which provides relief for small businesses and their employees who are affected by the outbreak of COVID-19;
- The key program is the “**Paycheck Protection Program**,” an emergency lending tool, administered by the Small Business Administration (SBA) under its existing 7(a) lending program, to provide loans to small business on favorable terms to borrowers impacted by the economic uncertainty brought about because of the pandemic;
- There is roughly \$350 billion set aside for this program – it is the largest program targeted toward small businesses in the CARES Act;
- The Paycheck Protection Program has two main goals:
 - Help small businesses cover immediate and near-term operating expenses, and
 - Provide an incentive for employers to retain employees.

How does the Paycheck Protection Program Work?

- The program provides small businesses with 500 or fewer employees with federally insured, partially forgivable loans that can be used to cover operating expenses:
 - Maximum loan is 250% of the employer’s monthly payroll costs, or \$10 million (whichever is less);
 - Payroll costs include wages, salaries, retirement contributions, healthcare benefits and contributions to retirement;
- The program has a number of attractive features for borrowers, including:
 - Six to twelve months of deferred payments
 - Waiver of loan application and processing fees
 - Streamlined application and approval process;
- Most importantly, the Paycheck Protection Program has a loan forgiveness feature:

- *This effectively turns some of the loan into a grant that does not need to be repaid*
- Loan forgiveness equivalent to the sum spent on qualifying expenses
 - Payroll
 - Rent
 - Utilities
 - Mortgage interest payments;
- To qualify for loan forgiveness, borrowers must:
 - Maintain their pre-crisis level of full-time equivalent employees (or face a reduction in forgiveness proportional to the reduction in headcount);
 - Because some businesses have already been forced to make staffing reductions in response to shrinking markets and lost revenues, the legislation includes a provision that allows those companies to qualify for loan forgiveness if they have re-hired back to pre-crisis levels by June 30, 2020;
- Borrowers do not need to show economic harm, but do need to certify that:
 - *The current economic conditions created by COVID-19 necessitate a loan to support ongoing business operations;*
 - The funds will be used to maintain payroll and other covered expenses;
- Loan terms:
 - 10-year maturity;
 - Interest not to exceed 4%;
 - Deferral of any payments for 6-12 months (when coupled with loan forgiveness provisions, this may mean some entities never make a payment)
 - Lenders are expected to prioritize loans to small business and companies in rural areas, which describes most forest industries;
 - Applications are through banks and other financial institutions that administer Small Business Administration loans. Check with your bank or financial institution to see if they can assist with this loan process.
 - As of March 31, 2020, rules for banks making these loans are still in development. It is anticipated that these loans will be available in the near future, and companies are encouraged to reach out to their banks as soon as possible if they want to learn more about this opportunity.

State & Association News

AEDC COVID-19 Resources for Businesses and Employers

The *Arkansas Economic Development Council (AEDC)* has produced a downloadable Resource Guide for Businesses and Employers during the Challenge of CODIV-19. **We have attached that [HERE](#).** We will continue to share these up-to-date resources from AEDC when they are modified or provide additional listed resources.

ADDITIONAL LINKS FOR MONITORING CODIV-19

Arkansas State Chamber Updates on CODIV-19:

KNWA FOX24 Statewide Coverage and Resources

For Up-to-Date INFO on Reporting of CODIV-19, including not only cases, location, but also helpful information on where to get tested, KNWA FOX24 is a good resource online. LINKED [HERE](#):



Federal News

American Enterprise Institute provides a road map for reopening from COVID-19 [here](#).

State Chamber member **Friday Eldredge & Clark LLP** has issued guidance for businesses and healthcare providers regarding the recently passed federal CARES Act: [here](#).

The Department of Homeland Security Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency has released [updated guidance](#) on **Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce**.

The National Council on Compensation Insurance (NCCI) has information about workers compensation and COVID-19 [here](#).

Summary of Unemployment Insurance Provisions in Title II Sub-title A of the “CARES Act” [here](#).

Health insurers **Cigna and Humana** have announced they will waive COVID-19 treatment costs [here](#).

The most **up-to-date information on mortgage help for homeowners** impacted by the Coronavirus can be found [here](#).

State News

Associated Industries of Arkansas Pinnacle member **Tyson Foods, Inc.** is donating more than \$13 million in cash and products for COVID-19 relief efforts [here](#).

The **Arkansas Small Business and Technology Development Center (ASBTDC)** is offering several no-cost webinars to help business owners respond to the COVID-19 outbreak [here](#).

The Arkansas Department of Education has provided a guidance page regarding education information [here](#).

Arkansas PBS is broadcasting “Arkansas AMI” – streamlined, curriculum-bases programming for Arkansas pre-K through 8th grade students – partnership with the Arkansas Department of Education’s Division of Elementary and Secondary Education in response to mandated school closures due to COVID-19 [here](#).

Predicted COVID-19 economic impact in Arkansas from the Sam M. Walton College of Business at the University of Arkansas [here](#).

For additional information and resources, check our [COVID-19 Coronavirus and Arkansas](#) page [here](#).

We are proud to work as an entire sector, collaboratively, to help and keep one another safe and healthy, as well as our collective families, medical frontliners and staff, and our Natural State communities.

We are focused as an AG sector to doing our part to flatten the curve. So, take this seriously. Look to the real experts for guidance. Follow recommendations and protocols. Try to remain calm and attentive regarding new information, and although it may prove challenging, try not to be overwhelmed and provide yourself with self care when you can. That includes eating healthy, resting, and finding time to connect, via social distancing, with friends and family.



We are in this together.

Interested in learning more about ATPA and ARK LOGGER or becoming more involved?

[Click here to learn more](#)

[Links to More Federal and State News](#)

- [Arkansas Forestry Commission](#)
- [Arkansas Forestry Association](#)
- [Log A Load For Kids](#)
- [American Loggers Council](#)
- [Forest Resources Association](#)

YOUR AD HERE!

Contact us with your interest in advertising in our next online **Member Update**, reaching Arkansas contractors and affiliates with info about your products & services



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