

## When properly implemented, CLPs benefit woodlots by:

- ❖ Protecting and/or maintaining forest health and productivity by reducing site impacts and logging damage to residual trees and other vegetation;
- ❖ Protecting and/or maintaining other forest values and features such as wildlife habitat, streams, woodland pools and wetlands; and
- ❖ Maintaining the ecological functions of the woodlot.

One thing woodlot owners have in common is a strong desire to do what is right for their land....

*A Landowner's Guide to Careful Logging* provides landowners with sound advice as they make decisions to protect the health and integrity of their woodlots, while maximizing returns.

Call today for a copy!

For more information, or to receive a copy of the handbook *A Landowner's Guide to Careful Logging*, contact:

- ❖ The Ontario Woodlot Association  
(888) 791-1103  
[www.ont-woodlot-assoc.org](http://www.ont-woodlot-assoc.org)
- ❖ The Parry Sound-Muskoka Stewardship Network  
(705) 646-5530  
[www.ontariostewardship.org/councils/parrysound-muskoka](http://www.ontariostewardship.org/councils/parrysound-muskoka)
- ❖ The Muskoka Heritage Foundation  
(705) 645-7393  
[www.muskokaheritage.org](http://www.muskokaheritage.org)

Produced by:



*Muskoka*  
WATERSHED COUNCIL

# A Landowner's Guide to Careful Logging

# WHAT ARE CAREFUL LOGGING PRACTICES?

## Careful logging practices are...

Careful logging practices (CLPs) include a range of techniques and practices used by landowners and loggers to minimize damage to the forest, soil, wildlife habitat and water.

A harvest plan is a component of a woodlot management plan that outlines details about your planned harvesting activities. The plan should ensure that operations are appropriate for the individual woodlot and are carried out according to your objectives, relevant legislation, principles of good forestry practices and recommended CLPs.

Some examples of CLPs include:

## Directional Felling of Trees



Felling trees so that they fall in a pre-determined direction that will cause the least damage to standing timber or the site.

## Proper Skid Trail Layout

Skid trails are used by logging equipment to drag or carry felled trees or logs from the stump to the landing.



When planning skid trails, keep in mind that the amount of logging damage is directly proportional to the number of trails. A skilled logger can minimize the number of trails and significantly reduce the potential for site and stand damage.

## Tree Protection for Wildlife

Small woodlots are habitat for many species of plants and animals. To provide critical habitat for a number of wildlife species, retain a minimum of six quality cavity trees, eight berry or nut-bearing trees and ten conifers per hectare.



## Establish Buffers Near Water

The decision whether to establish a riparian buffer resides with the landowner. This decision should be made after consideration of existing legislation and recognition of the ecological functions of riparian areas (wildlife habitat, maintenance of water quality and quantity, wildlife travel corridors, etc.).

It is common practice to establish a buffer with two distinct zones:

1. A 'no-disturbance' zone immediately adjacent to the water's edge; and
2. A larger buffer beyond the 'no-disturbance' zone where cutting is modified and equipment access is limited.

## Help is Available!

For more information, or to obtain your copy of the handbook, *A Landowner's Guide to Careful Logging*, contact the Ontario Woodlot Association at 1-888-791-1103 or visit [www.ont-woodlot-assoc.org](http://www.ont-woodlot-assoc.org).