

# matsif

## SAFETY LOG

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### Board of Trustees Approve 2023-24 MATSIF Rates | by Jackie Schummer

The MATSIF Board of Trustees met on August 16<sup>th</sup> to review and approve all necessary renewals for the 2023-24 fund year. This included approving the 2023-24 budget, approving the terms of the excess renewal coverage, and setting the rates for the new fund year. We are pleased to announce that there will be no rate increases for the 2023-24 fund year. Below is a list of the approved rates for 2023-24. The highlighted class codes are those codes that will see a small reduction to the current rate. A stable, consistent rating plan is our goal, and we have managed to meet that goal year-after-year. Many accolades are due to all the MATSIF members, Board of Trustees and staff that work together to make this happen.

#### 2023-24 MATSIF RATES

Class Code	Description	Rate	Class Code	Description	Rate
0005	Nurserymen	\$12.81	5183	Plumbing	\$3.25
0042	Landscaping	\$4.51	5221	Concrete Construction	\$5.74
<b>0106</b>	<b>Tree Trimmers</b>	<b>\$7.50</b>	5437	Carpentry Install, Cabinet	\$5.00
0128	Farms	\$12.25	5606	Executive Supervision	\$2.25
2021	Maple Syrup Production	\$5.50	6217	Excavation NOC	\$9.00
<b>2702</b>	<b>Logging &amp; Lumbering</b>	<b>\$30.00</b>	6229	Septic Tank Installations	\$3.30
<b>2702M</b>	<b>Mechanical Logging</b>	<b>\$4.50</b>	<b>7219</b>	<b>Truckmen - Long/Local</b>	<b>\$6.75</b>
2702T	Log Truck Drivers	\$8.50	7380	Drivers NOC	\$6.70
2705	Firewood Processing	\$10.00	8017	Retail Store	\$2.00
2706	Pellet Mfg.	\$7.00	8018	Packaging	\$6.74
2710	Sawmills	\$9.00	8059	Light Packaging	\$6.00
2731	Planing & Molding	\$8.30	8107	Machinery Dealer	\$2.20
2759	Pallet Shop	\$6.90	8232	Lumber Yards	\$6.50
2802	Carpentry (Shop & Driver)	\$5.00	<b>8233</b>	<b>Arborist - Ground Crew</b>	<b>\$6.50</b>
2812	Cabinet Work Power Machinery	\$3.50	8265	Steel Erection	\$24.24
2841	Woodenware Mfg.	\$6.50	8393	Auto Body Repair	\$1.57
2881	Furniture Assembly	\$3.80	8601	Timber Cruiser	\$1.49
2883	Furniture Mfg.	\$15.65	8742	Sales	\$0.70
3113	Filer	\$2.50	8810	Office - Clerical	\$0.50
3507	Agricultural Machine Mfg.	\$5.00	9015	Installation, Maint., & Repair	\$7.50
4000	Sand & Gravel Digging	\$9.00	9102	Lawn Maintenance	\$4.82
4239	Paper Mfg.	\$3.90	9402	Snow Removal; Septic Cleaning	\$3.00

Premium Volume Discounts	Premium Size	Discount %	Premium Size	Discount %
	\$0 - \$5,000	0%	\$50,001 - \$75,000	15%
	\$5,001 - \$25,000	5%	\$75,001 - \$100,000	20%
	\$25,001 - \$75,000	11.5%	Over \$100,000	25%

## Are You in The Driver's Seat | by Brian LeBoeuf

Like many of you, my dad taught me many skills as a kid. I looked up to him and saw him in some of the work I do. I can also see traits from other family members and extended family members. Years of watching, working with, and mimicking my elders has molded how I do everything. So, what does this have to do with safety? That is an excellent question, and I appreciate you asking.

Even as adults, we are still learning and watching others. Employees are always looking to managers and owners on how to act at work. We give them direction, show them proper methods, and offer support and correction when needed. This leads me to a common issue in the wood products industry. Managers and owners are not practicing what they are preaching. Specifically, PPE usage and taking shortcuts.

One of my pet peeves is to walk into a mill or logging site and see the boss not wearing a hard hat. I have had owners ask me why they have PPE issues. It usually goes back to managers not wearing PPE and not enforcing their subordinate's use of PPE. PPE should NEVER be an option. It is a necessity. Even the smartest owner or manager can be hurt. I see it every year. None of us are invincible. So, are you a safety driver? Are you, as a manager or owner, driving your employees to be safer by your use of PPE? Many of you will say no. Or give me one of the most common

excuses, "I am not in the mill or the site much, so I am less likely to get hurt." Even if that is true, why not wear PPE and be the person that shows your employees how to act? If I came to you one day and sat in your office and said I could prevent two injuries a year and save you thousands in downtime and insurance costs every year for free, what would be your response? Tell me how right now. Strict enforcement of PPE is the answer, and it starts in the front office. Simple and inexpensive.

This is not just pointed at managers and owners. Everyone who works at a company and is in an area that requires PPE must wear it. If an administrative assistant travels to a production area during the day, they must wear the required PPE. The job of being safe is everyone's responsibility.

It is time to break the mold that PPE is not cool. PPE is not about being cool, it is about going home to your spouse at the end of the day in one piece. Seeing your kids and having all your fingers and not having to explain to them, I was too cool to take care of myself and to be there for you. This is extreme, but that is a real possibility, and managers need to treat their decisions as life and death. Never forget someone is watching and learning from you. Let's drive them to the safest way.

## Safety Review | by Brian LeBoeuf

Members of MATSIF should be familiar with the safety inspections performed by the Loss Control Staff. I want to discuss their importance not only to MATSIF but to the members.

To some members, a safety inspection feels like we are trying to find fault with their safety program. That is not the case.

Our first goal is to keep members' workers safe. Loss control will look for obvious situations that could cause an injury. These issues may not be evident to the members or the employees. Normalization of an unsafe work environment is not uncommon. In our minds, we may know a condition exists that could be safer or is outright dangerous. What happens is the safety issue has not caused an accident yet and is ignored, or just forgotten about. Loss Control will be a set of fresh eyes to the situation.

The second goal is to ensure we protect the MATSIF fund. At MATSIF we want to insure members that believe in working safely. This is in the best interest of the fund. Preventing injuries will save money, keeping rates low, and increase refunds. If we can help our members reduce their injuries, we all win.

Our last goal is MIOSHA compliance. That is the acronym that most members do not want to hear. However, I would like to take a different look at their role. I can bet that no one reading this article wants to see another person hurt at work. MIOSHA is here to prevent that to the fullest extent. To do that, they must enforce the rules. The rules are not arbitrary, someone was hurt for a rule to be enacted. The inspection we perform follows the MIOSHA standards. This is to keep the members compliant. Whether or not we agree with all the rules, following them will

only be a benefit, either in safety or compliance.

Right now, markets are slow. Managers and owners may find they have spare time at work. This is a perfect time to review safety plans and procedures. A good start is to have MATSIF loss control visit your operation. Your Loss Control Representative will perform an inspection and offer help in any areas you would like help. MATSIF also has a checklist available as a self-check for safety compliance.

Contact your Loss Control Representative today for help with your safety program.

Brian LeBoeuf,  
Zone 2 Loss  
Control



Rick Dessellier,  
Zone 1 Loss  
Control



Mike Kline,  
Zone 3 Loss  
Control

# THINK SAFETY

## 2023 Second Chance 3rd Quarter Winners

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| ■ Eli Larson<br><i>Doug Anderson Logging, LLC</i>                           | ■ Jim Roberts<br><i>Sanville Logging, INC.</i>            | ■ Steven Scott<br><i>Thunder Bay Tree Service, LLC</i>   |
| ■ Tony Klarich<br><i>DKS Contracting, INC., dba Bugle Contracting, INC.</i> | ■ Kirt Vincent<br><i>Triest Forest Products, INC.</i>     | ■ Bill Axford<br><i>Timberline Logging, INC.</i>         |
| ■ Roy Forray<br><i>Lumber Jack Hardwoods, INC.</i>                          | ■ Matthew Tusa<br><i>Turo Land &amp; Timber, INC.</i>     | ■ Kade Weaver<br><i>Tiimber Trax Harvesting, LLC</i>     |
| ■ Glenn Adams<br><i>Minerick Logging, INC.</i>                              | ■ Phil Massey<br><i>Davis Excavating And Logging, LLC</i> | ■ Ken Reese<br><i>E.H. Tulgestka &amp; Sons, INC&gt;</i> |
| ■ Dylan West<br><i>S &amp; S Treeworkx, INC.</i>                            | ■ Matthew Richmond<br><i>Fahl Forest Products, INC.</i>   | ■ Brent Wickham<br><i>Welch Land And Timber, INC.</i>    |
| ■ Alex Naser<br><i>St. John Trucking, INC.</i>                              | ■ Nathan Orcutt<br><i>John Nowakowski Sawmill</i>         | ■ Nick Bugg<br><i>Woodhaven Log &amp; Lumber</i>         |
|   |   | ■ Joshua Graham  |

### WELCOME

#### New MATSIF Members

- Weaver Forest Products, LLC, Sears
- T & D Forest Products, LLC, Hillman
- Newberry Wood Products, LLC, Newberry
- Gabe's Tree Service, Fulton

**\*Any Address or Phone Number Changes - Please contact Jessie at [jessie@matsif.com](mailto:jessie@matsif.com) or 906-293-3467**

## Earl St. John Memorial Golf & GLTPA Logging Congress | by Mike Kline

September in Michigan is a great time of year. The weather is starting to cool off, Football season has started, and hunting is right around the corner. It also means that it is time for the Earl St John memorial golf outing and the Great Lakes Logging and Heavy Equipment Expo. Many people come from across the Midwest to take part in both events as they meet up with old friends and make new ones.

The golf outing took place on Wednesday and things looked good from the start. This year 36 different 4-man teams signed up and were eager to get on the course. Mother nature tried to discourage us, but she did not succeed and only caused a slight delay. After the rain stopped, it turned out to be a nice day. I did not play golf, but volunteered to watch the hole-in-one contest on hole 15 with my fellow employees from MATSIF. Unfortunately, no one was able to sink the big shot, but we did have a lot of fun meeting and talking with everyone. The day finished off with some raffles, door prizes and announcing the winners.

After the fun day on the links, it was time to get set up for the Expo on Thursday that kicked off at noon. Overall, there were a lot of

vendors at the show and no shortage of the latest and greatest technology that our industry has to offer. MATSIF was set up in booth 21 and in a great location to see our members

that were there, and also to discuss MATSIF with some new potential members. It was not all work for us though as we were able to slip away a little to wander around the show and see the new toys for ourselves. There was also some fun to be had at the after-hours events with some great food and charity events sponsored by Ponsse North America & McCoy Construction & Forestry.

The overall mood was a little somber with the industry being slow, but there was some optimism that things would turn around soon. This industry is, if nothing else, resilient, and will make it through and come out stronger on the other side. During the slow times I have seen a lot of companies putting added emphasis on their safety programs and ensuring they will be better than ever. Not only are these shows good places to network, but they are also great places to see how other companies are handling safety and share ideas to keep moving safety forward.



**PICTURED ABOVE:** Jackie Schummer, Fund Administrator and Mike Kline, Zone 3 Loss Control Rep greet-



**PICTURED ABOVE:** Mark, Jim, Steve and David Anderson of MVA Enterprises; sponsors of the golf outing.



**PICTURED ABOVE:** MATSIF staff and some of the Jim Carey family at the MATSIF Expo Booth.



PICTURED ABOVE: FLM staff members in full force at their Expo booth.



PICTURED ABOVE: Chris LeBoeuf, Matt Bouty, Nathan Fleetwood, and Charlie Wilson from Lumberjack Hardwoods.



PICTURED ABOVE: MATSIF staff, Mike Kline, Jackie Schummer, and Brian LeBoeuf

PICTURED RIGHT: MATSIF staff, Emily Golat & Missy Bodi sizing up some equipment.



## OSHA's Final Ruling on 300A Log Reporting Requirements

OSHA has made a final ruling on the updated reporting requirements for Form 300A. This new filing requirement becomes effective January 1, 2024. The new rule requires employers with 20 – 250 employees that are listed in Appendix A, Subpart E to electronically file Form 300A. Logging, sawmills, wood mfg., etc. are listed in the Appendix. This means that in addition to posting the Form 300A log at your facility, you will be required to electronically file the report on the OSHA website. Please refer to the OSHA website for details on the new electronic filing requirement.

## It's Audit Time!

Our fund year is ending and you will soon be receiving your 2022-23 payroll audit form. We have redesigned the form to make it easier for members to reconcile their numbers. **NEW THIS YEAR** will be an option to complete your form via a fillable Excel worksheet. Please email [emily@matsif.com](mailto:emily@matsif.com) if you would like to complete your audit using this form.



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## SAFETY LOG in this issue:

- 2023-24 Rates
- GLTPA Expo and St. John Golf Outing
- News from the MATSIF Office

## TREES

Our Renewable Resource

Be sure to check out our updated website!

### Make your job easier:

- Submit premium reports and make payments online.
- Download frequently used forms.
- Order safety apparel and equipment.
- Educate your employees with safety training videos.
- Read past issues of the *Safety Log*.
- And more!

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