



Forestry Safety Association of Newfoundland and Labrador Newsletter

FALL 2016

Message from the Executive Director

National Forestry Week was held from September 18-24, 2016. There were several great events during that week and FSANL was very happy to take part in all of the festivities. The Forestry Day in the Park was a huge success again this year. The children were delighted to visit the displays set up by various branches of the Fisheries, Forestry and Agrifoods Department, Corner Brook Pulp & Paper Ltd, Resource Innovations and FSANL.

During Forestry Week FSANL held an information session at Rugged Edge on Lundrigan Drive concerning ATV, UTV, snowmobile driver training and chainsaw safety. Thanks to the Rugged Edge staff for hosting this event and we look forward to working with you in the future to put off more sessions in the future. Congratulations to our prize draw winners. Blair Diamond will receive a free registration to an ATV driver training course and Shannon Fry won the \$25.00 gift certificate from Rugged Edge.

On September 23, the 3rd annual Log a Load for Kids golf tournament was held at Blomidon Golf course in Corner Brook. All money raised goes directly to the Janeway and we are honored to help with such a worthwhile cause. The weather was great and all teams had a good time. I would like to congratulate the FSANL team of Tammy and Pat Higgins, Brad Roberts, and Dion Newman on their tournament win. Thank you to all who participated in the tournament and to all who donated money in support of the Janeway. The real winners of this event are the children with over \$1000.00 raised.



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Benefits of FSANL Membership

I would like to take a moment to share with you the benefits of being a member of FSANL.

By being a member you have access to all health and safety information that the Association has. If you have questions, you can call or email at any time. If we don't have the immediate answer we can get it for you from one of our board representatives.

FSANL'S Board of Directors has representation from the following groups;

WorkplaceNL, OHS Inspection Division, NL Forest Service, NL Federation of Labour, NL Employers Council, Corner Brook Pulp & Paper Ltd, NLLPA, Unifor Local 60N, UBC Local 579, Deer Lake Power, Harvesting Contractors Rep, and IAMAW.

As you can see there is tremendous support behind the Association and it is available to you as a member.

In addition, as a member you are entitled to discounted rates for all safety training courses that we offer. You will not find cheaper rates anywhere.

Member Spotlight



Arthur Fowlow Limited (AFL) headquartered in South Brook, was founded in 1974

and became incorporated Oct 22, 1985. AFL is a pulpwood contractor originally producing pulpwood for Bowaters in Corner Brook and continues to provide pulpwood for Corner Brook Pulp & Paper Ltd. AFL began harvesting wood with conventional loggers and in

1991 switched to a mechanical operation with 6 harvesters, 3 forwarders, wood loader, and 2 excavators to round out their fleet.

AFL uses only John Deere equipment and really appreciates the business relationship and support they have received from their local Nortrax dealer.

AFL currently has 31 employees.

NATHAN'S SAFETY TIP:

“NEVER TRIM TREES NEAR POWER LINES.”



Nathan Martin, Arborist

Nathan knows the dangers of trimming trees around power lines all too well, that's why he wants the public to know that trimming trees near power lines is best left for professionals. Never cut or trim trees near power lines and never attempt to remove a tree that has fallen into a power line. If you are a contractor or heavy equipment operator who works close to power lines, make sure you always look up before you cut, and follow all Occupational Health and Safety Regulations. **THINK SAFE. LIVE SAFE.**

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Power Line Hazards: Contact with Utility Power Lines

YTD: September 30, 2016: Newfoundland Power and Newfoundland Hydro Combined:

60 Public Incidents

36 Public Contacts

17% of Contacts by Vegetation Management

58% of Contacts by Heavy Construction Equipment

EVERY PUBLIC INCIDENT AND CONTACT HAS THE POTENTIAL FOR A FATALITY!

Definitions:

Public Incident: Contact with utility power line infrastructure and/or energized power line. There may not be direct contact with the energized conductor or equipment.

Public Contact: Direct contact made with energized portion of the power line or equipment (includes service drop wire)

BOISAR Safety Message



“BOISAR has several tools available to assist in avalanche rescue”.



With time falling back on November 6, it is a good time to check your Fire and CO2 Detectors. Remember to replace the battery, and if they are more than 10 years old, they should be replaced as soon as possible for safety's sake.

With winter fast approaching, and forecast to be colder and snowier than last year, it's a good time to start preparing for the risks that come with participating in winter activities; specifically, avalanche safety.

Recently, more powerful sleds are allowing riders to travel further and faster, and improved equipment is taking backcountry skiers and mountaineers into new terrain. The risk of an avalanche is always present during the winter in western Newfoundland, given our steep terrain, high winds and often significant snowfalls. A changing climate means more temperature changes above/below freezing, all of which helps create various layers in the snowpack and increases the risk an avalanche.

While avalanches can occur very quickly and without much notice, there are some key factors to consider as you analyze the terrain. Slope angle is one of the first things to look for when assessing the risk. Many are surprised to learn that an angle between 25-45 degrees is the largest cause for concern. This is because “slab” avalanches are most likely to occur at this angle and are considered the largest and most deadly. At more than 45 degrees, snow doesn't bond as well and cohesive slabs don't form as often. However, at these higher angles we must begin to look for “cornices” which are created when blowing snow accumulates on one side of cliffs and ledges. It is best to avoid these areas, but if you must travel below, do so quickly and one person/sled at a time as many cornices still have enough snow to bury someone, and can trigger larger slides. Other factors to look for include: evidence of a previous avalanche or slide, existing cracks in the snowpack, rapidly changing winds & temperatures, natural anchors (rocks and forest often anchor the snowpack, but if they are not dense enough, can act as trigger points) and “terrain traps” such as gullies, bowls, small canyons and rivers that may direct an avalanche your way, or be the point the avalanche stops and the snow is deepest.

A few pieces of equipment to consider include:

Avalanche transceiver: A small electronic device worn close to the body that broadcasts a radio signal. Anyone not buried is able to turn their transceiver to a search mode and follow the signal to the buried person.

Snow probe/shovel: A good quality shovel with an extendable shaft can help in many situations but is vital in avalanche rescue. Practice using the probe and shovel; efficient technique can be the difference in the life and death situation.

For more information on this equipment, and other recommendations including avalanche airbags and emergency communication, visit www.avalanche.ca/gear

BOISAR has several tools available to assist in avalanche rescue, including beacon/transceivers, probes and shovels, a RECCO detector (used to find people wearing clothing or equipment with a RECCO reflector), as well as snowmobiles and trained team members. However, nothing can replace awareness, preparation and – given the time-sensitive nature of avalanche rescue – the ability to successfully “companion rescue”. Over the winter, we will offer training and demonstrations to the general public (dates TBA). In the meantime, there are many excellent resources available on www.avalanche.ca.



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|---------------------------------------|---|
| Chainsaw Safety Awareness | Fall Protection (1 and 2 day) |
| Brush Saw Safety awareness | Power Line Hazards |
| ATV, UTV, Snowmobile, Driver Training | Environmental Awareness |
| OHS Committee/Representative | Safety for Supervisors (2 day) |
| Transportation of Dangerous Goods | Emergency, Standard, & Wilderness First Aid |
| WHMIS 2015 | Certificate of Recognition (COR) |



10 Main Street
Suite 101
Corner Brook, NL A2H 1B8
Canada

Tel: (709) 388-0374
Fax: (709) 634-7296
Cell: (709) 640-5007

We're on the web!
nlforestsafety.ca



**Don't forget to wear the
proper safety equipment for
the job!**