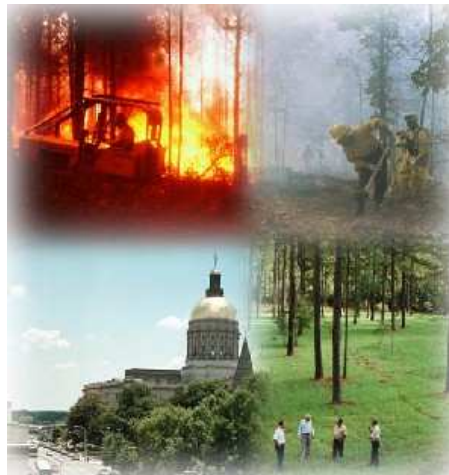


Timber Operations



Under the authority granted by the Official Code of Georgia 12-6-24 and the Code of Lincoln County Section 22 Article IV, the following polices and procedures for timber harvesting operations conducted in the un-incorporated areas of Lincoln County shall become effective on August 01, 2005.

Under the Code of Lincoln County: Sec 22-102: a-g: Timber Operations.

(a) All persons harvesting standing timber in any unincorporated area of the county for delivery as pulpwood, logs, poles, posts, or wood chips to any wood yard or processing plant located inside or outside this state shall provide notice of such harvesting operations to the board of commissioners of the designated agent thereof prior to cutting any such timber.

(b) Prior written notice shall be required of any person harvesting such timber for each separate tract to be harvested thereby, shall be in such form as prescribed by rule or regulation of the director of the state forestry commission, and shall consist of:

1) A map of the area which identifies the location of the tract to be harvested and, as to those trucks which will be traveling to and from such tract for purposes of picking up and hauling loads of cut forest products, the main point of ingress to such tract from a public road and, if different, the main point of egress from such tract to a public road;

2) A statement as to whether the timber will be removed pursuant to a lump sum sale, per unit sale, or owner harvest for purposes of ad valorem taxation under O.C.G.A.

3) The name, address, and daytime telephone number of the timber seller if the harvest is pursuant to a lump sum of per unit sale or of the timber owner if the harvest is an owner harvest; and

4) The name, business address, business telephone phone number, and nighttime or emergency telephone of the person harvesting such timber.

(c) Notice may be submitted in person, by transmission of an electronic record via telefacsimile of such other means as approved by the board of commissioners, or by mail.

(d) The board of commissioners may require persons subject to such notice requirement to deliver a bond or letter of credit as provided by this subsection, in which case notice shall not be or remain effective for such harvesting operations unless and until the person providing such notice has delivered to the board of commissioners or its designated agent a valid surety bond, executed by a surety corporation authorized to transact business in this state, protecting the county against any damage caused by such person in an amount specified by the board of commissioners not exceeding \$5,000.00 or, at the option of the person harvesting timber, a valid irrevocable letter of credit issued by a bank or savings and loan association, as defined in O.C.G.A., in the amount of and in lieu of such bond. For purposes of this subsection, any such surety bond or letter of credit shall be valid only for the calendar year in which delivered.

(e) Notice shall be effective for such harvesting operation on such tract within such unincorporated area of the county upon receipt of the same by the board of commissioners or its designated agent and, if applicable, compliance with the requirements of subsection (d) of this section and until such time as the person giving such notice has completed the harvesting operation for such tract; provided, however, that any subsequent change in the facts required to be provided for purposes of such notice shall be reported to the board of commissioners or its designated agent within three business days after such change.

(f) Notice requirements shall be applicable to any such timber harvested on or after the effective date of this Code.

(g) Violation of the notice requirements of this section shall be punishable by a fine not exceeding \$500.00.

Prior to the set up or start of operations for the harvesting of any standing timber in any unincorporated area of Lincoln County for delivery as pulpwood, logs, posts, or wood chips to any wood yard or processing plant located inside or outside this state:

1. Notice shall be made to the office of Planning and Zoning as set forth in C.O.L.C. Section 22-102. Such notice shall be in the form as prescribed by the director of the state forestry commission. Forms are available from the office of Planning and Zoning and should be completed prior to arriving at the Planning Office. Forms should be completely filled out prior to submission. Upon receipt of notice, properly completed, the Office of Planning and Zoning shall issue the appropriate registration card; said registration card shall be posted at the entrance to the timber harvesting operation in such a manner as to be clearly visible from the public right of way.

2. Persons or firms required to make such notice shall deliver a Surety Bond, obligated to the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners, in an amount of \$5000.00, executed by a surety corporation authorized to transact business in this state, protecting the county against any damage caused by such person or firm. At the option of the person or firm harvesting timber, a valid irrevocable letter of credit issued by a bank of savings and loan association, as defined in O.C.G.A. Section 7-1-4, in the amount of and in lieu of such bond may be presented. Any such surety bond or letter of credit shall be valid only for the calendar year in which delivered, continuous bonds or letters will not be accepted.

3. No timber harvesting operation shall commence or continue to operate without first installing and maintaining a temporary driveway cut and culvert to access the property. Prior to beginning set up harvesting operations of tracts one (1) acre or larger, the harvester shall contact the Office of Planning and Zoning to arrange for an on site meeting and intersection to determine existing road conditions and locations of ingress and egress from public roads for the operation.

Driveway cuts shall be located in such a manner to provide clear line of site of oncoming or converging traffic, but less than the following:

Design Speed Limit	Site Distance (feet)
30	275
35	350
45	500

#60 or equivalent gravels not less than 4 inches deep shall be installed and maintained not less than twenty (20) feet wide and extending not less than fifty (50) feet from the edge of the pavement at each point of ingress/egress for the duration of the harvesting operation. The

required gravel shall apply when ingress/egress is from any paved road in Lincoln County.

4. No timber harvester shall allow dirt, mud, or other debris resulting from timber operations to accumulate upon the right of way of any public road in Lincoln County.

5. No timber harvester shall allow dirt, mud, or other debris resulting from timber operations to accumulate in ditches and drainage areas on public right of ways.

Best management practices shall be put in place as required to, prevent the run off and deposit or accumulation of silt or other debris in or on any public right or way, stream, pond, waterway, or drainage easement.

6. No timber harvesting operations shall be commenced before and until warning signs are posted along the public right of way onto which the harvester's trucks shall enter. At least one sign in each directions located 500 feet from the entrance which states "Slow Trucks Entering Highway", and one sign in each directions located 1000 feet from the entrance stating "Warning Logging Operations Ahead". Each sign shall be 36"X36", with orange background and black letters, posted at least 3 feet above the roadway.

7. Upon completion of harvesting operations the temporary driveway cut and culvert shall be removed. The ditch, road shoulder, and or drainage area grade shall be restored, seeded, and straw applied to prevent deterioration and or erosion. Once the drive cut has been removed and graded restored the timber harvester shall contact the Office of Planning and Zoning for a final inspection to close the harvesting operation and to determine if any further cleanup or repair is required.

The policies outlined above are designed to protect the public, the environment, and the infrastructure of Lincoln County, and to provide for and insure the quality of life that we all enjoy in our community.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and compliance.



Contact Information: Code Enforcement
Address: P.O. Box 340 Lincolnton, Georgia 30817
Phone: (706) 359-5525
Fax: (706) 359-5831
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.