

BLACK CREEK TOWNSHIP

Luzerne County, Pennsylvania

1980 Tomhicken Rd. Bloomsburg, PA 17815
Phone: (570) 384-3206 Zoning Officer (570) 881-9874

TOWNSHIP USE ONLY	
Permit # _____	
Date Issued ____/____/____	
Fees \$ _____	Ck# _____

Permit Officer	

Application for Timber Harvest Permit

All information must be printed and legible for permit acceptance.

General Information:

Property Owner Name: _____

Daytime Phone: (____) _____ - _____ Email Address _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Applicant (If other than the owner): _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone: (____) _____ - _____ Email Address _____

Property Address: _____

Tax Parcel ID No. _____ (This can be found on your Luzerne County tax bill)

Harvest Information

Type of Timber Harvest - Selective Clear Lot Cutting

Lot Area _____ Area to be harvested _____ (Acres or square footage)

Fair Market Value of timber harvested \$ _____

Estimated Start Date _____ Estimated Completion Date _____

Brief Description of Project:

Timber Harvest Permit Application Check List:

All Timber Harvest Permit Applications shall be filed with Black Creek Township either in person or by mail.

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- All applicable information is included on the application in a legible form.
- Attached a copy of the plot plan showing:
 1. All existing buildings
 2. Location of the new improvement showing the distance from all the following features
 - a. Property lines
 - b. Streams, ponds, or water courses
 - c. Swales and ditches
 - d. Roads or streets (public/private)
 - e. Well, septic system; tank; drain field.
 3. Location of any easement or right-of-ways.
 4. Driveways and parking areas.
- Attached copies of any and all other permits that may be required for the project. (i.e., on-lot septic, driveway, erosion and sediment control plan)

- Check or money order made payable to Black Creek Township for zoning permit application fees.
Application Fee - Lots less than 5 acres - \$100.00, Lots more than 5 acres - \$500.00
- Verified that the proposed project DOES NOT require any stormwater features.**

Signature:

I hereby authorize the designated Black Creek Township official to investigate, inspect, and examine the Property set forth herein, including land to determine compliance with the Black Creek Township Zoning Ordinance and to determine the accuracy of the statements contained herein. I am aware that I commence any activity associated with this application until a Timber Harvest Permit has been issued by Black Creek Township.

I have read and fully understand Section 602(21) of the Black Creek Township Zoning as it may relate to any forestry/timber harvesting permits for which I am applying for. The Timber Harvest Permit may be revoked if the use and/or structure for which it has been issued violates any applicable Township, County, State or Federal law, or regulation, including but not limited to the Black Creek Township Zoning Ordinance. This Permit may also be revoked if it has been issued in error, or if issuance was based upon any misrepresentations or errors contained in the application or otherwise made by the applicant. **By signing this application, I certify that all facts in the application and all accompanying documentation are true and correct.**

I acknowledge that the holder of a Timber Harvest Permit is responsible to ensure compliance with all applicable Township Ordinances, and at completion of the work authorized by the permit, I acknowledge that the Township requires that a final inspection be performed by the Zoning Permit Officer before the permit is considered closed and final.

Please be advised that the application fee associated with this application is only for the basic review and issuance of the Timber Harvest Permit. The applicant will be financially responsible for any additional permits and/or approvals that may be required for the proposed project, such as, but not limited to, Subdivision and/or Land Development, Stormwater Management and Township Consultant's costs.

Signature: _____
(Owner)

Date: _____

Printed Name _____

Signature: _____
(Applicant, if not the owner)

Date: _____

Printed Name _____

FORESTRY/TIMBER HARVEST ACTIVITIES

(Black Creek Township Zoning Ordinance, Section 602)

(21) Forestry/Timber Harvesting Activities.

A. Applicability. This Section applies to all timber harvesting and land clearing within Black Creek Township where the value of the trees, logs and/or other forest products removed exceeds \$1,000.00. It does not cover the cutting of trees for the personal use of the landowner, or for pre-commercial timber stand improvement.

B. Submission and Approval of Logging Plan.

1. Plan Approval Requirement, It shall be unlawful for any operator or landowner to conduct timber harvesting on more than five acres in the Township of Black Creek except as provided in an approved logging plan which is available at the harvest site at all time during the operation.
2. Plan submission, approval, and appeal. At least 30 business days before the operation is scheduled to begin, a landowner on whose land timber harvesting is to occur shall prepare and submit to the Township Zoning Officer a written plan or amendment in the form specified in this Section. Within 30 business days of the receipt of the plan or amendment, the Township Zoning Officer shall approve (with or without conditions) or deny the plan. The landowner may appeal the decision of the Zoning Officer within 30 days of issuance to the Zoning Hearing Board.
3. Notification. The operator shall notify the Zoning Officer in writing at least two business days before operations commence and ten business days before operations are completed under an approved timber harvesting plan. The notification shall identify the operation, and, as applicable, shall specify the commencement or completion date.

C. Contents of Logging Plan.

1. Minimum Requirements: As a minimum, the logging plan shall include the following:
 - i. Design, construction, maintenance and retirement of the access system, including, haul roads, skid roads, skid trails, and log landings;
 - ii. Design, construction and maintenance of water control measures and structures such as culverts, broad-based dips, filter strips, and water bars;
 - iii. Design, construction and maintenance of stream and wetland crossings;
 - iv. A stand prescription for each stand located in the proposed harvest area; and
 - v. The general location of the proposed operation in relationship to municipal and state highways, including any access to those highways.
2. Map: Each logging plan shall include a site map containing the following information:

- i. Site location and boundaries, including both the boundaries of the property on which the timber harvest will take place and the boundaries of the proposed harvest area within that property;
 - ii. Significant topographic features related to potential environmental problems;
 - iii. Location of all earth disturbance activities such as roads, landings, and water control measures and structures;
 - iv. Location of all crossings of waters of the Commonwealth; and
 - v. The general location of the proposed operation to municipal and state highways, including any access to those highways.
 - 3. Compliance with all State and Local Laws and Regulations: The plan shall address and comply with the requirements of all applicable State land local laws and regulations including, but not limited to erosion and sedimentation control; stream crossing and wetland protection; and storm water management. Any permits required by state and local agencies shall be attached to and become a part of the logging plan.
- D. Forest Practices. The following requirements shall apply to all timber harvesting activities within Black Creek Township:
- 1. Felling or skidding on or across any public thoroughfares is prohibited with the express written consent of the Township, County or Pennsylvania Department of Transportation; whichever is responsible for the maintenance of the thoroughfare.
 - 2. No tops or slash shall be left within 25 feet of any public thoroughfare or private roadway providing access to adjoining property.
 - 3. All tops and slash between 25 feet and 50 feet from a public roadway or private roadway providing access to any adjoining property or within 25 feet of any adjoining property line shall be lopped to a maximum height of four feet above the ground level.
 - 2. No tops or slash shall be left on or across the boundary of any property adjoining the operation without the consent of the owner.
 - 3. Litter resulting from a timber harvesting operation shall be removed from the site before the operator vacates it.
 - 4. A buffer strip of at least 50 feet must be maintained along any road, stream, or recognized recreational trail. Selective cutting only will be allowed in these zones except for salvage cuts.
 - 5. Timber operations and related activities shall be conducted only between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. unless authorized by the Zoning Hearing Board.
 - 6. Soil carried or washed onto public streets during the operation shall be removed daily.
 - b. Road Maintenance, Repair And Bonding. The landowner and the operator shall be responsible for repairing any damage to township, state, or county roads caused by traffic associated with the timber harvesting operation to the extent of the damage that is in excess of that caused by normal traffic. Pursuant to 67 Pennsylvania Code, Chapter 189, the Township may require the landowner or operator to furnish a bond to guarantee the repair of such damages.