

# Wisconsin Forestry Career Profile

## Log Yard Operator



Photo courtesy of Pukall Lumber Co.



### High School Courses

- Forestry
- Motors/Engines
- Plant Science
- Oral Communication



### Education/Training

- High school diploma or equivalent
- Optional heavy machinery training



### Responsibilities

- Load and unload log trucks
- Load machines with logs
- Move logs around the yard and into the mill
- Inventory logs by tree species
- Operate chainsaws and prepare logs



### Skills

- Use and maintain chainsaws safely
- Operate heavy machinery
- Use handheld data collection devices
- Use Microsoft 365 products and apps
- Maintain accurate records
- Communicate effectively
- Identify and sort logs by tree species



### Abilities/Personality

- Self-motivated
- Dependable
- Organized
- Able to get in and out of tall equipment
- Able to make repeated movements
- Tolerant of noisy environments



### Work Environment

Log yard operators spend most of their workday outside either in heavy machinery or taking inventory of logs. They need to be able to work in all weather conditions.

### Job Description

Log yard operators are responsible for inventory, movement, and organization of a log yard at a lumber or paper mill. Operators use heavy machinery to move logs off/on trucks, to storage, and eventually to the mill. They keep track of the grade, species, and location of logs in the yard. They may also be responsible for trimming and bucking logs – cutting them to standard size.

### Salary Range

