

Forest Applications News
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Forest Applications
News
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Forest Applications

Training for the Forest's Future!

NEWS

Training Requests...

I mentioned in the last edition of the news how pleased I am that Husqvarna has stepped in to again strengthen their commitment to the users of outdoor power equipment by offering a consolidation of resources of Forest Applications Training and the Husqvarna Professional Product Specialist Team. I want to add, in my conversations with our other sponsors of Oregon® Cutting Systems and PFERD, their desire to continue promoting and supporting financially our combined training efforts. The sponsors provide promotional funding for our newsletter publications and product for our training use and prizes. All this combined effort means an even stronger support of Loggers, Tree Care, Municipal, State and Landowners who operate chain saws and other outdoor power equipment. They are concerned about your safety and ease of operation.

I have used for many years the statement - "Chain saws do not make chain saws, people do!" It's people like those of Oregon®, PFERD and Husqvarna who exemplify this statement. These People (of and in these companies) really care about users of their products and tools. They know that training is a valuable resource to help make our lives longer and more profitable...

Keeping that in mind... we would like to hear from you as to what types of training you would like to organize or be part of for the future. We now offer safety and operator programs for:

- Chain Saw Operations
- Line Trimmers
- Brushcutters
- Clearing Saws
- Pole Saws
- Utility Vehicles
- Commercial Mowers
- Saw Chain and Guidebar Bar Maintenance Workshops
- Two-cycle Troubleshooting

With the additional instructors we have days to fill. Please contact our office by phone at 770-459-3791 or by email info@forestapps.com for outlines and pricing. Thank you for your support of Forest Applications Training! - Tim Ard

Thank you...
Husqvarna, PFERD
and Oregon for your
2005 sponsorship of
the news!



Wedge It...

By Tim Ard

It is absolutely amazing to me to watch a skilled woodworker, in a place like a guitar shop or cabinet shop, really utilizing his hand tools. Slicing and curling wood chips from the bulk material to shape the instrument or cabinet joint. The chisel and wood-plane turn the skilled hand into a machine as they jointly control the intricate work.

The use of wedging in chain saw applications, much like the wood crafts-

man's chisel and hand plane, are often a forgotten art. Well, the wedge is not a totally lost art, but one that is often forgotten. You see the woodsmen of yesteryear had to depend on the wedge and its lift and support to achieve successful tree placement and reduce pinching of the saw. Because of the hydraulics of today's harvesting machines we have somewhat forgotten the simple tools that can make our lives more productive, and in the case of the wedge in falling and bucking trees, much safer. I have had the opportunity to watch many eyes widen and minds broadened as a wedge either eliminated a pinched bar, raised a log or lifted a back leaning tree toward its desired resting-place during a presentation. Chain saw operations depend greatly on the sawyer's ability to understand simple wedge basics and how to use them effectively to complement a tree removal plan and especially assist in storm damage clean up.

There are two basic styles of wedges found at most local wedge sales outlets (saw dealers). The first one is a metal wedge with a fairly aggressive taper. This type of wedge is not designed for falling and supporting.

This wedge design is for the task of splitting firewood. The second design is usually of hardwood, aluminum or polymer (plastic). This wedge type has a taper that is slower, less aggressive from its point to the head (hammer surface). A falling wedge is generally not more than one to one and a quarter inches thick at the head. The importance of wood, aluminum or plastic shows up very quickly with regular wedge use. No matter how

careful you are, you're going to make a mistake and cut into a wedge at some point. If you use a steel wedge, you have just damaged your saw chain. Wood

and plastic are more forgiving to the saw chain yet I have only had one instance where it didn't support the weight of the tree.

Once in Florida I proceeded to use a wedge that had been heating up in the bed compartment of my truck. They do soften up a little at about five hundred degrees. The wedge mushroomed and flattened a bit trying to drive it into the backcut kerf of an Australian pine tree. Other than that time, I have not found a tree to date that could not be lifted with the strength of the plastic wedge. Now my ability and hammering strength, that's a different question... Plastic wedges, are amazingly strong enough!

Wedge Taper

The point (or leading edge) of the falling, bucking wedge often incorporates a small edge

bevel. These smaller taper's assist the sawyer in the initial placement and lift ability of the wedge as it's inserted into the backcut or kerf. Wedges with this point taper are usually defined as a double-taper wedge.



Some special application falling wedges have an additional taper. The second taper, which begins about half the length of the wedge, increases the taper rate toward the head. This wedge, which is described as a triple-taper wedge, offers a little faster lift after being driven in past the taper change. The triple-taper is often used for smaller diameter, lighter trees and applications where "stacking" of

wedges is not required. I have also found them to be an advantage on larger heavier trees to begin the lifting process. The second taper area of the wedge is a very thin gradual taper to slowly begin

the lift. Once the tree begins to move with some momentum, the wedge then



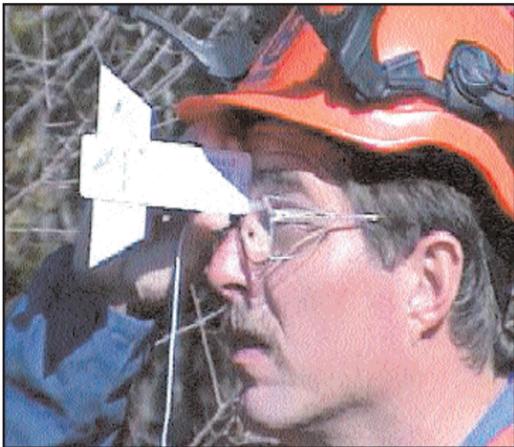
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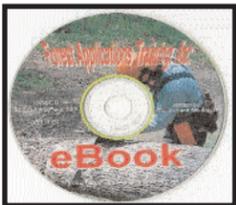
Up A Tree...

Is it important to know how tall a tree may be? If there are hazards and obstacles within its reach, it may well be! Now you can be a bit more confident in your planning process before felling a tree. The Cross-Sight from Forest Applications Training, offers you pocket size tree measurement. Folding to fit easily in your pocket, you can now have a tool at hand to quickly size up a tree.

You can read more about the Cross-Sight on our web at <http://www.forestapps.com>. The tool may be purchased from **our new eStore on the web** or from Sherrill, Inc. at 1-800-525-8873. The cost is \$12.00.



Cross-Sight



Find out more on our **NEW e-book...**
The Complete Guide to Chain Saw Safety & Directional Felling

Visit our website at
www.forestapps.com



LAURA'S CORNER

The flowers are full of color, the trees are blooming. Isn't it great after such a cold, snowy winter?

I have exciting news....we can now accommodate more programs and even larger groups in our hands-on chain saw training sessions. We are pleased to have chain saw instructor - Cary Shepherd with Forest Applications Training.

So for your future planning you can also now consider...

Chain Saw - Hands-on - with two Instructors - 20-25 in each class.

Classroom – the whole group

Outside portion – two groups of 10-13.

You will need an area with enough trees for each person to cut, and one or two trees for each instructor.

New Program...

Small Engine Class – this class offers a hands-on light tear-down of a chain saw engine. Class size 25-30. Class is informative and is designed toward the operator as well as the mechanic regarding troubleshooting a problem with that hard to start two-cycle engine. Get answers to the many questions that are asked out in the field.

New Program...

Line Trimmer Class – this class offers a hands-on set up, and operation of Line Trimmers. This class includes Clearing saws, brush cutters, and Pole saws. Class size 25

We also have training classes for the following equipment:

- Power Cutters
- Hedge Trimmers
- Leaf Blowers
- Riding Mowers/tractors
- Commercial Mowers

For more information and cost for the above classes, call Laura today at - 770-549-3791 or email laura@forestapps.com.

Sensible Woodcutting Videos are still available. Contact us via the website registration and we will send it to you no charge!
<http://www.forestapps.com>



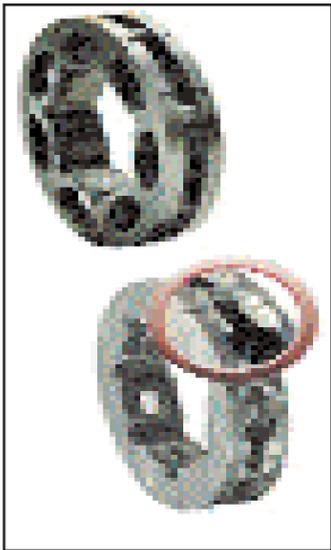
Need chain saw safety material to use for your tailgate and scheduled safety meetings? The Forest Applications Website has articles and pictures you are welcome to use. Surf around the site when you get a little time...

Another great resource is our Forest Applications eBook. You can access it through your laptop on a tailgate for a super presentation to your employees. Pick a technique or discuss a hazardous situation with the crew - all at a click of the mouse. Or with the SP version you can print a section for your use. Give it a look-see at www.forestapps.com



Upgrade to OREGON® PowerMate Rims

Most OREGON® rim sprockets for .325" , 3/8" and .404" -pitch chains have been upgraded to include new Wear-depth Indicators. When sprocket wear reaches the depth of the indicator, it's easy to see that it's time to replace the sprocket. Replacing the sprocket at the proper time is important. Excessively worn sprockets become out of pitch with the chain. The out of pitch condition will cause rapid and excessive wear on the chain, which can lead to chain breakage. Do not run old chain on a new sprocket, or new chain on an old sprocket – either of these situations can contribute to excessive wear or breakage. Without Wear-depth Indicators, OREGON® generally recommends that two new chains be used in rotation with each new sprocket, and that sprockets be replaced every two chains – or sooner. But with the new Wear-depth Indicators on OREGON® rim sprockets, chainsaw users have a more precise means to know when it's time to replace the rim sprocket.

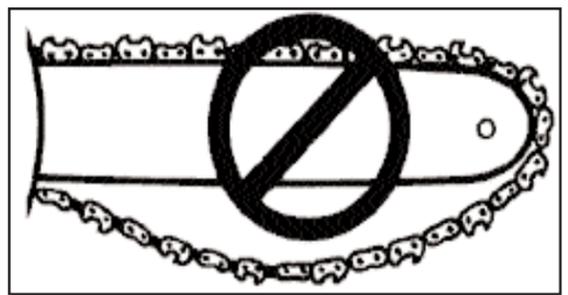
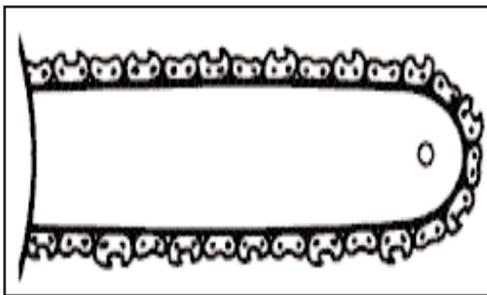


How Tightly Should I Tension My Chain?

For a sprocket nose bar, turn your saw's tension-adjustment screw until the bottoms of the lowest tie straps and cutters come up and contact the bottom of the bar rails, then turn your tension-adjustment screw an additional 1/4 turn. Also, on sprocket nose bars, the snap test should be performed. Grasp the chain along the bottom of the bar, pull down, and let go. The chain should snap back to its original position, solidly contacting the bottom of the bar rail.

For a solid-nose bar, turn your saw's tension-adjustment screw until the bottoms of the lowest tie straps and cutters come up and contact the bottom of the bar rails. Chain tension on a solid-nose bar should be adjusted looser than on sprocket nose bars.

Regardless of your bar type, your chain should move freely around the bar. **NEVER TENSION CUTTING CHAIN WHILE IT'S HOT!**



**Reduced Weight...
The Light Way To
Guide Your Chain!**



Forest Applications Training, Inc. is proud to have Oregon® as a National Sponsor of this News publication and our training programs across the country.

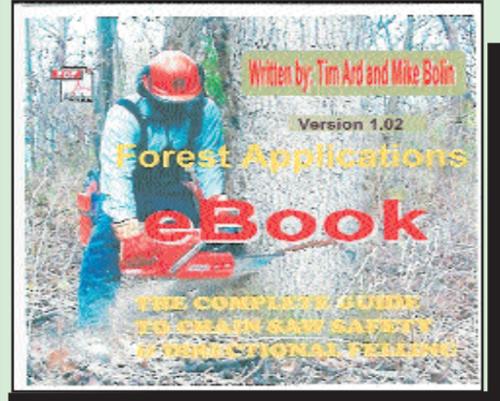
Visit the Oregon® website at <http://www.oregonchain.com>. You can find a lot of information on products, safety and general use of chain saws as well as purchase from their unique on-line dealer system. Let'em know where you heard about it... Tim

eBook

Order your eBook online at the New Forest Applications Training eStore.
<http://www.forestapps.com/e-book/eStore.htm>

The Forest Applications Training eBook has over 200 pages, 180 photos and 13 unique video clips. All can be read, seen and played from your computer. This is a great training tool for tail-gate sessions, new employees or just as a great refresher for yourself. Get yours today for as little as \$19.95 including shipping and handling from the eStore. Pay by credit card on the secure authorize.net pay connection from our website or call 1-800-208-6171 pin# 1235 to place your order.

If you're not computerized... a black and white printed version is available for only \$ 29.95 + \$4.00 shipping and handling.



New Instructor..

Last newsletter I wrote of new opportunities - combining the Husqvarna PPS team and Forest Applications training programs. I have some additional great news!

Cary Shepherd will be assigned to Forest Applications Training activities full time. He will begin working with Tim the first of May and will begin shortly afterwards taking request for applications training programs for saws and other power products nationwide.

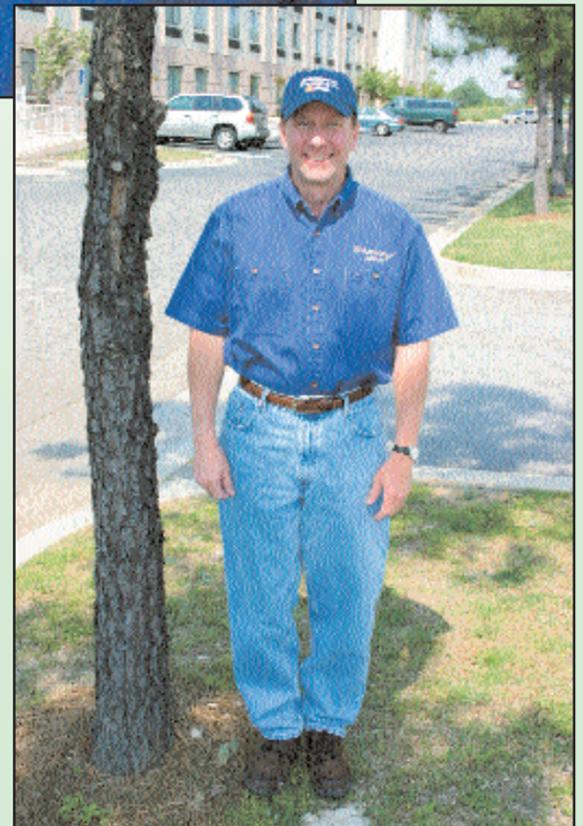
Cary has over ten years experience organizing and presenting chain saw safety and applications programs. He has followed closely and has taken part in numerous Game of Logging, ArborMaster and Forest Applications Training sessions over the years. His enthusiasm and concern for chain saw operator's safety and performance has led him to the top of the F.A.T. instructor selection.

Forest Applications Training is excited to have the opportunity to add such a chain saw virtuoso to our training ranks. To find out more of how to arrange for Cary to visit your training session, event or show - contact Laura@forestapps.com or call 770-459-3791 for cost and availability.



Cary Shepherd -

The new Chain Saw Instructor and Power Products Programs instructor...



Wedge It... Continued

adds its third taper for a quicker lift. This third or last taper to the head generally is the same as the standard double taper wedge. The most commonly used are the double taper.

Stacking

When lift is needed that exceeds one wedge's thickness, stacking is required. Stacking wedges can be done a couple different ways. Stacking techniques naturally require the sawyer to have a minimum of three or more wedges.

One stacking technique can be accomplished by creating another wedge slot. By utilizing a bore or plunge cut, a second slot is placed over or offsetting the placement of the first wedge in the kerf. You must be careful to consider the weight support of the first wedge or you will quickly find your saw stuck in the tree. Under or over cutting the wedge that is supporting weight will allow the tree to set down on your saw and can even cause loss of control of the tree. Ideally, planning this technique initially will allow for the stacked wedges to be placed before the tree weight is released to rest on the two lifting wedges.

Over the year's, sawyers generally thought to place the wedges with tapers aligned. One wedge was placed directly on top of the other. But, what would most often take place is one of the wedges would jump out of position when the axe or hammer is applied. This could be very tricky and often surprising sometimes. When the wedge(s) would pop out of the kerf, the tree would set backwards. Not good! Some sawyers who had experienced the problem would always put a small amount of sawdust between the wedge surfaces. This helped to curb the problem but it still existed. Other sawyer techniques cross the wedges at almost a ninety-degree position to each other as they are placed in the backcut. With the wedges placed perpendicular (ninety-degrees) to each other the wedges seem to lock themselves together in the kerf as the axe or hammer is driving them. The kick



HUV News

The PPS training team had a super experience with all the new Husqvarna HUV's at the manufacturing test track. We

put the units through the paces- rocks, water, mud, hills, debris... It was awesome...

If you get a chance, drop by your local Husqvarna Dealer and take a test drive.



over probability is greatly reduced.

Lift

How do you calculate the number of wedges needed to lift a given tree? How many wedges do you need for a tree that leans back, or away from its projected target area? If you can calculate the "segments" of a tree there is an answer to the question. First form a measured square cube at the base of the object, if this cube is lifted on one corner a given distance, it will move the exact same amount on the opposite corner. This is a constant if the object is a square... The thought - if a tree is 80 feet tall and is approximately 1 foot diameter at the base you have 80 segment in that tree. If you turn the base of the tree into a cube it will be approximately a one-foot cube. There would be 80 cubes in the tree if divided the base into the height. If you now pick up, lift the bottom cube 1-inch in the back, then the front top of that base cube will move 1 inch. Now

the tricky part... if the bottom cube moves 1 inch forward, and there are 80 cubes to the tree top, the top of the tree will multiply the movement of the first cube by 80. The top of the tree will move 80 inches or approximately six and one half feet at the top by lifting the base by 1 inch.

So you can calculate this amazing lifting power of a wedge...

If you would like to know more about wedging there is a section on our website under Tim's Tip's and also in our eBook available at www.forestapps.com.

Please remember... anytime you are using, driving wedges - use eye and face protection!

Good Sawing and Wedging! - Tim

I recommend Wedges from OREGON® and Husqvarna Dealers,,,

Order your Forest Applications eBook
on-line today @
WWW.FORESTAPPS.COM



Upcoming Training and Events...

Check the Website for up-to-date schedule listings

May 2005	
3-4	LTAP Two-day Chainsaw - Pottersville, RI
5	LTAP Small engine - Pottersville, RI
6	LTAP Line Trimmer - Pottersville, RI
9	Chain Saw Demo - Beacon Insurance - RI
10-11	Massachusetts Career Days -(Husqvarna)
12-13	BayState Roads Two-day Chain Saw -
16-17	Connecticut LTAP Chain Saw Demo - Storrs, CT
18-19	RI Career Days - Cranston, RI
20	LTAP Chain Saw Demo - Pottersville, RI
23-24	Bay State Roads - Two-Day Chain Saw - Massachusetts
25	Bay State Roads - Chain Saw Demo
26-27	Mansfield MA Hwy Dept. Two-Day Saw Training
June 2005	
7-8	Logger Program - Covington, VA
10-11	Maryland Logger Field Days - Oakland, MD (Tentative)
14-17	Trail Worker Training - Great Smokey Mtn Park
21-23	GA LTAP Small Engine Course
July 2005	
14	Logger Program - Covington, VA
19-21	GA LTAP Training
25-29	Husqvarna Training - Beatrice, NE
Aug 2005	
4-6	Oregon@ Training - OR
19-21	Woodsmen's Day's - Boonville, NY (Husqvarna)
23	Husqvarna Demo - New Berlin, NY
24	Logger Program - Covington, VA
Sept 2005	
6-8	GA LTAP Small Engine Course (tentative)
12-16	VA DOT Chain Saw Training - Blacksburg, VA (Tentative)
17	Logger Competition - Clifton Forge, VA
19-21	VA LTAP (tentative)
23-30	New England Tour

Important

Keep your Forest Applications News coming...

On the top of page one - check your printed mailing label. On the top line will be a date. The date indicates your subscription's end. If that date is past or you do not have a date listed it's time to renew your subscription to the News.

The Forest Applications News will continue to be available to readers *free of charge* on our Forest Applications Training website and also in the printed version mailed to your address *for four editions* following you attending one of our demonstrations or training programs.

After being on the mailing list for four editions, you make the selection to continue receiving the news for the following three years at a nominal fee of \$10.00 for a total of twelve editions – only \$.84 per issue. Your three-year subscription totaling \$10.00, is payable by check, cashiers check, or money order to Forest Applications Training, Inc. **You can also now pay by Credit Card from the eStore on our website at www.forestapps.com.**

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Don't miss the News!

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Mail with \$10.00 payment to: Forest Applications Training, Inc., PO Box 1048, Hiram, GA 30141-1048

If you haven't -- check out the Forest Applications website. You will find updated calendar events, special articles, up to date news, online newsletter... E-mail your questions, techniques, training interests and ideas of articles you would like to see in the news. All at <http://www.forestapps.com>
e-mail: info@forestapps.com

Have you tried one or all of the products we show in the News? Husqvarna Saws, Oregon Chain and Bars, PFERD Files, PFERD Chain Sharp/SharpForce, See Clear?

Send us a note and let us know what you think!

E-mail us at info@forestapps.com

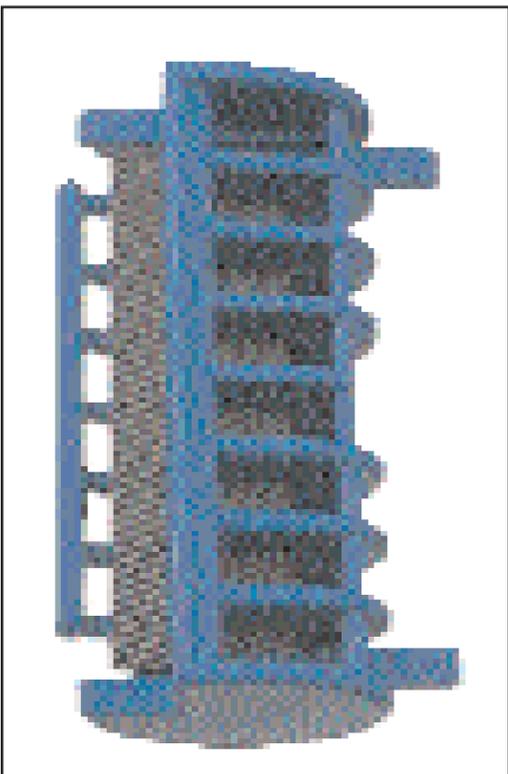


Bar Conditioner

The unique Universal Edge Sharpener from PFERD is ideal for removing burrs, squaring and reconditioning your bar. Simply remove the chain and run the tool along the bar rails in easy forward strokes. A 90 degree angle is built in for bar truing. The replaceable file is cut on both sides for twice the life. When it becomes worn, simply open the unit and flip the file.

Check out other PFERD tools at http://www.pferd.com/PRO_Chainsaw_Files.pdf

Available from PFERD and Husqvarna Dealers.



PFERD Guide Bar Conditioner/
Dressing Tool

... order your ChainSharp
PFERD sharpening tool.
How?
Call PFERD 1-800-342-9015

PFERD

We are amazed at the continued interest in the PFERD Chain Sharp (Husqvarna SharpForce) tool. Everywhere I go people are asking where to buy it and more details as to how to use the tool. - Tim

PFERD Tool - This quarter we have had great success with programs for city, county and state chain saw operators across the eastern USA. There is an increasing request for hands-on programs with these operator-training venues. It is always inspiring when class participants really focused on the class materials and presentation, come up and appreciate us for what we show and do.

In discussion of the saw chain and proper filing techniques I show a variety of sharpening tools to accomplish field maintenance of saw chain, but one tool, the PFERD Chain Sharp always draws admirable eyes and hands.

After showing the tool briefly in the saw chain portion of the class, it amazes me how many participants, who take first points prize pick at the end of the day, go right to choosing the PFERD tool over many other more expensive prizes.

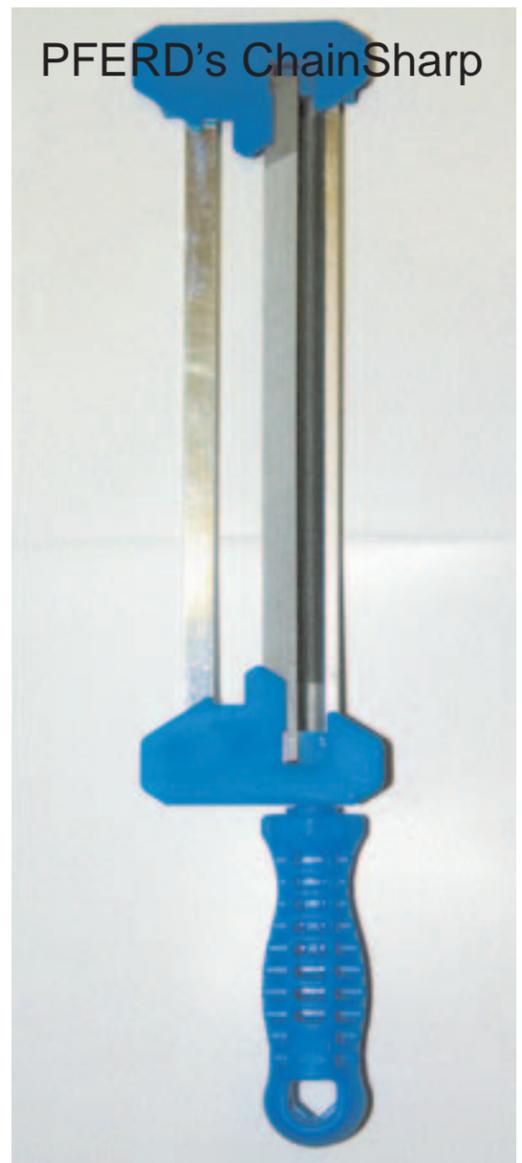
This tool works!

Try one and let us know.... see your local PFERD or Husqvarna dealer and pick one out yourself like those points leaders in our training classes. Ask for the PFERD Chain Sharp or the Husqvarna SharpForce tool!

eStore

We have had such a great response to our eStore over the past few months we decided to make it a little more up to date with a real shopping cart service. You can now go to the eStore from several areas of the website and when you do, you can easily select one of the **Forest Applications Training eBooks, Cross-Sight tool, or re-subscribe to the Forest Applications Training Newsletter.** Just fill your shopping cart and click check out. You are taken to a fully secure check out and credit card processing system to complete your order. It's fast, safe and simple and all from the convenience of your computer desk.

www.forestapps.com



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Don't Forget...

Contact us with your desired training dates for Summer and Fall 2005

Check out www.forestapps.com

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