The Kentucky Forest Conservation Act:

- Applies to commercial timber harvesting operations—namely the loggers and operators.
- Does not require a permit or notice of intent to harvest.
- Defines best management practices (BMPs) as they relate to timber harvesting operations.
- Establishes a master logger program and requires the cabinet, the University of Kentucky, and the Kentucky Forest Industries Association to develop education and training requirements for the program.
- Does not require all loggers to become master loggers.
- Requires master loggers to complete continuing education every three years.
- Requires Division of Forestry to maintain a list of master loggers and master loggers to provide published telephone numbers.

Loggers and operators are required to:
- Have a master logger or a temporary master logger on site and in charge of commercial timber harvests.
- Use appropriate BMPs during timber harvest.
- Correct damage to land and water.
- Does not affect:
  - Cutting firewood.
  - Cutting Christmas trees.
  - Removing trees incidental to clearing for coal mining or farm purposes.
  - Cutting trees in highway or utility corridors unless timber is sold.
  - Cutting timber by an individual, nonindustrial landowner on his own land if the landowner cuts the timber.
- Exempts logging operations that primarily use mules and horses from master logger requirements. (Does not exempt from BMP requirements).
- Gives loggers and operators four opportunities to correct problems unless a water quality emergency exits or a master logger is not on site.
- Provides for “bad actor” designation and civil penalties if loggers and operators fail to comply and removal of bad actor status when loggers and operators demonstrate compliance.