

Kicking off

Rolling Acres Machine Certification

VWC members, you've been hearing about Rolling Acres starting machine certification to match the program at Brownwood which has been ongoing for several months. Well, the time is here! You'll recall this program has two main goals: One, to keep you safe and knowledgeable on how to use some of the more advanced machines and tools. And two, maintain better control of machine use so that machine operation, performance, and overall repair costs are improved.

Beginning Monday, March 21st, you'll start seeing the three position shaper, and the two re-saw bandsaws locked out at Rolling Acres. To use one of these machines, you'll need to coordinate with an instructor authorized to train you on the machine, and you need to have a project in hand that requires you to use the machine. Once certified, you'll be on "the list" to use that machine. During the initial phases of the program an instructor or an authorized member (a list will be posted by the lock box) can grandfather experienced operators and/or assist someone who wants to use the machine. Please note you must have a project that requires the use of the machine. This requirement is to help ensure correct machine use memory. And eventually, you may find additional machines locked out as the program progresses.

At Rolling Acres, you'll find the lock out box, and a list of instructor's you can contact to get certified. There may not be an instructor or authorized member in the shop 24/7, so pre-planning is important.

If you have been using the machine previously, you'll discover the certification process is easy and you may learn something you weren't aware of. Your patience and cooperation in the certification process will be appreciated. We'll work to keep waiting times to a minimum.

Please keep in mind the primary goal of the club's Certification Program is to keep members safe and to use our machines and tools properly. We're here to help members achieve those goals. Any questions? Contact Steve Eikenberry, Brad Primeau, John Herega, Tony Torra, or Rik Peirce at Rolling Acres.