

# BERKSHIRE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

### SELECTIVE TIMBER HARVEST

**Property:** Approximately 60 acres

**Location:** 14270 Claridon Troy Road, Burton, Ohio 44021

**Owner:** Berkshire Board of Education

**RFP Issue Date:** October 22, 2026

**Proposal Submission Deadline:** November 23, 2026 12:00 Noon

Emailed to [Matthew.hosler@berkshireschools.org](mailto:Matthew.hosler@berkshireschools.org) ATTN: RFP SELECT TIMBER HARVEST

**Anticipated Commencement:** Immediately following award, execution of contract and completion of all required pre-harvest requirements

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#### **Scope of Project**

Berkshire Local School District is soliciting proposals from qualified logging contractors for the selective harvesting and purchase of standing timber on District-owned property. The primary objective is to maximize the financial return to the District through the sale of timber, responsible forest management while preserving the long-term health of the woodland and protecting the District's cross-country course, trails, and other property improvements. The selected logger shall purchase the approved timber and perform all associated harvesting, hauling, cleanup, and restoration at no additional expense to the District.

#### **1. Timber inventory, selection, and written approval**

Before cutting, the Logger and the District's designated representative shall walk the site, identify proposed harvest trees by species and location, and agree on a written, marked harvest plan. A qualified forester may assist the District in reviewing the plan. All approved trees shall be clearly marked prior to harvesting. No unmarked trees shall be removed without prior written authorization from the District. The District reserves the right to exclude any tree or area from harvesting. The District may designate trees or areas "Do Not Cut." No unmarked or unapproved tree may be cut, and no expansion of the harvest area is permitted without prior written District approval. Tree selection shall consider forest health, age, regeneration, wildlife, aesthetics, and protection of the cross-country course.

## **2. Timber purchase price and payment**

The Logger shall submit a firm, lump-sum purchase price for all standing timber identified in the District-approved harvest plan. The proposal shall include an itemized schedule identifying species, estimated merchantable volume, unit pricing, and total proposed purchase price.

The full agreed purchase price shall be paid to Berkshire Local School District in cleared funds prior to the commencement of harvesting operations.

All costs associated with harvesting, hauling, equipment, labor, permits, insurance, brush removal, trail restoration, and property cleanup shall be the sole responsibility of the Logger and shall not reduce the agreed purchase price.

No adjustment or refund of the purchase price shall be permitted without a written amendment approved by the District.

## **3. Permits and regulatory responsibility**

At its sole expense, the Logger shall determine, secure, maintain, and comply with every permit, license, notice, authorization, agency review, and approval required for the harvest, hauling, access, waterway/wetland work, erosion and sediment controls, road use, and protected species. This includes applicable federal, Ohio, county, township, and other local requirements. The Logger shall provide copies to the District before work begins. District approval of a plan does not substitute for any governmental authorization. The Logger shall comply with applicable U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service requirements, including current endangered-species and bat-related requirements, and shall suspend work if required authorizations or seasonal restrictions prohibit activity. Any fines, penalties, or corrective actions resulting from the logger's violations are the logger's responsibility, to the extent permitted by law

## **4. Access and protection of cross-country trails**

The Property includes an active cross-country course. Before mobilization, the parties shall document trail locations, approved access routes, skid trails, landings, loading areas, sensitive areas, and boundaries. Prior to mobilization, the Logger and District representative shall conduct a joint inspection of all proposed access routes, trails, and affected areas. Existing conditions shall be documented through photographs. The Logger shall be responsible for restoring all areas damaged by harvesting operations to a condition equal to or better than their documented pre-harvest condition. The Logger shall avoid cutting across or placing logs, brush, slash, machinery, or equipment on the course except at crossings expressly approved in writing. No new road, landing, skid trail, stream crossing, or other substantial disturbance is allowed without written District approval and necessary permits. The District may restrict work during school activities, races, wet weather, or unsafe conditions.

## **5. Harvesting and environmental practices**

Logger shall use accepted selective-logging and forestry practices; minimize soil compaction, rutting, erosion, and damage to residual trees; protect streams, wetlands, drainage, wildlife habitat, utilities, fences, structures, and neighboring property; and

immediately cease work when conditions threaten unreasonable damage. No indiscriminate harvesting or cutting outside approved boundaries is permitted. Logger shall prevent spills, promptly remediate any release, and remove its waste and equipment.

## **6. Mandatory brush cleanup and trail restoration**

All cleanup and restoration are INCLUDED in the timber purchase terms and shall be completed by Logger at no additional charge to the District. Logger shall: (a) remove all logs, limbs, tops, brush, slash, chips, and other logging debris from the cross-country course, existing walking trails, approved access roads, drainage channels, ditches, and other areas designated (b) cut back and remove hanging or hazardous limbs and unstable debris caused by its work; (c) collect and lawfully dispose of litter, cables, fuel containers, and non-wood waste; (d) grade, repair, seed/stabilize as appropriate, and restore ruts, skid trails, landings, roads, drainage features, and any damaged course surfaces to at least their pre-work condition; and (e) repair or replace damaged fencing, signage, culverts, utilities, and improvements. Slash elsewhere shall be treated or removed.

## **7. Schedule and Supervision**

The Logger shall submit a proposed harvesting schedule identifying anticipated commencement, duration, equipment operations, hauling activities, and final cleanup and restoration. The schedule shall be subject to District approval and may be modified to accommodate school activities, athletic events, adverse weather, or property conditions.

Work may begin only after a pre-harvest meeting and written notice to proceed from the District. Logger shall provide an on-site supervisor and advance notice of each operating day. Extensions require written District approval. The District may suspend unsafe, unauthorized, or noncompliant operations immediately.

## **8. Insurance, safety, and independent contractor**

Before entry, Logger shall provide certificates of commercial general liability, automobile liability, workers' compensation as required by Ohio law, and any additional coverage required by the District, with limits and additional-insured.

|                                 |                                                    |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Commercial general liability    | \$1 million per occurrence / \$2 million aggregate |
| Commercial automobile liability | \$1 million combined single limit                  |
| Workers' compensation           | Ohio statutory requirements                        |
| Additional insured              | Berkshire Board of Education, where applicable     |

The Logger shall maintain all required insurance throughout the harvesting and restoration period. Certificates of insurance and required additional-insured endorsements shall be provided to the District before operations begin. The Logger shall ensure that all approved subcontractors maintain appropriate insurance coverage. Logger is an independent contractor responsible for its employees, subcontractors, safety procedures, equipment, and lawful hauling. No assignment or subcontracting without District written approval; approved subcontracting does not relieve Logger of responsibility.

## **9. Damage, indemnity, and performance security**

Logger shall promptly repair at its own cost all damage caused by its operations, including injury to non-designated trees and damage to trails and property. Subject to Ohio law, Logger shall indemnify and defend the District against third-party claims arising from Logger's negligence, unlawful conduct, or breach, except to the extent caused by the District's own negligence or misconduct.

## **10. Inspection, default, and termination**

The District may inspect the work and timber records on reasonable notice. The District may immediately suspend harvesting operations upon discovery of unauthorized tree removal, harvesting outside approved boundaries, material environmental violations, unsafe conditions, or failure to maintain required insurance or permits. If the Logger fails to complete required cleanup or restoration following applicable notice and cure periods, the District may arrange for completion of the work by others and recover reasonable documented costs from the Logger, including through available performance security. Termination does not relieve Logger of cleanup, damage repair, payment, or regulatory obligations.

## **11. Owner's Right to Reject Proposals**

The Owner reserves the right to:

- Reject any or all proposals.
- Request clarification of any proposal.
- Negotiate with one or more proposers.
- Modify the scope of work.
- Cancel or postpone the project.
- Award the project based upon factors other than the highest financial bid.

The Owner's objective is to engage a qualified forestry contractor to achieve the desired forest improvements, protect the property's recreational, environmental, and wildlife resources, and maximize the financial return to the District through the sale of timber.

## **12. Award of Contract**

Submitted proposals should include:

- Qualifications and experience.
- Quality of the proposed forest-management plan.
- Proposed selective-harvesting practices.
- Protection of the cross-country course.
- Wildlife and environmental protection practices.
- Experience with bat and endangered-species requirements.
- Financial terms.
- References.
- Proposed schedule.

The Owner is not obligated to accept the highest monetary bid if another proposal better meets the overall objectives of the project.

### **13. Anticipated Project Schedule**

The anticipated schedule is:

- RFP Issued: October 22, 2026
- Site Visits: By appointment
- Proposal Deadline: November 23, 2026, 12:00 Noon
- Contract Award: As soon as reasonably practicable following evaluation of proposals
- Pre-Harvest Planning: To be determined
- Work Commencement: Immediately following completion of required planning, regulatory review, permits, and Owner approval
- Project Completion: To be proposed by contractor

The Owner recognizes that wildlife and environmental requirements may affect the timing of harvesting. The contractor shall identify any such restrictions in its proposal.

### **14. Site Visit**

Prospective bidders are strongly encouraged to inspect the property prior to submitting a proposal.

Site visits shall be coordinated with: Beth McCaffrey, (440) 834-3380 x2107  
[beth.mccaffrey@berkshireschools.org](mailto:beth.mccaffrey@berkshireschools.org)

Bidders shall familiarize themselves with the property, terrain, forest conditions, access, cross-country course, and other conditions that may affect the proposed work.

Failure to inspect the property shall not relieve the successful contractor of responsibility for conditions reasonably observable during a site visit.

### Results and Discussion



Address: 14270 CLARIDON TROY RD  
Owner: BERSHIRE BOARD OF EDUC  
Acreage: 60.19 | Deed: 988-1067  
Plot Book/Page: /  
Sub/Lot: LOT 25  
Sales Date: 05-23-1996 | Sale Amt: 0  
Year Built: | Remodeled:  
Grade: | Square Footage:  
Homestead? [90] | Excl Class: 429

Current Values Market | Taxable



