



SKILLED TRADES

POSITIONS IN THE FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY



SAWFILER

OTHER JOB TITLES: *saw doctor, circular sawfiler, benchperson, sawfitter.*

IF YOU WANT GOOD PAY, OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN ON THE JOB, A GREAT LIFESTYLE AND THE CHANCE TO WORK IN CANADA'S GREENEST WORKFORCE, THEN THE FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY IS RIGHT FOR YOU.

Why green? The forests are a renewable natural resource and the Canadian forest products industry is known for its world-class environmental credentials, including having the most certified forests in the world, and cutting more than 70% of its greenhouse gas emissions since 1990.

The industry offers something for everyone. It's an industry with a reputation for investing in skills training and career growth, and no matter what part of the forest products industry you work in - on the mill floor as a mechanical engineer, or in the forest as a forestry technician - every job is part of the greenest industry in Canada.

Canadian forest product companies will need to hire 60,000, or more, **new workers by 2020** to meet demand and you could be one of them!

DESCRIPTION

Canada's forest products industry produces a lot of lumber and it takes a lot of high-tech cutting equipment to get the job done. A sawfiler, or saw doctor, maintains and repairs these high-tech saws in a saw mill.

Sawfilers work in a mill's filing room. Saws used in timber mills are huge and expensive. They must be carefully maintained to operate safely. Repairing a damaged saw takes a lot of skill. Circular saws have multiple components that need to be aligned. In fact, to become a qualified sawfiler takes many years of full-time saw-filing. If you like using power tools and hand tools, you could be a perfect fit as a sawfiler.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Sawfilers perform some or all of the following duties:

- inspect all types of circular saws for plumb, level and proper tension
- correct saw defects by hammering or rolling the saws
- maintain tooth geometry of circular saws with sharpening
- maintain sharpening tools and equipment

THIS JOB IS RIGHT FOR YOU IF...

- you want to live an oversized life in one of Canada's beautiful forest communities
- a sense of community is important to you
- you like variety and learning new things
- you want to make a difference working in a green job
- you are handy with tools
- you take pride in precision work
- you like working with wood
- you want to spend time in a workshop, not an office

#LIFE'S BETTER HERE

Dare to Compare. See how much time and money you would save by moving to a forest community. Visit thegreenestworkforce.ca/compare

\$ EARNING POTENTIAL

\$29
PER HOUR

This is the high end of the Canadian average. In some areas, sawfilers make up to \$47 per hour.

+ BENEFITS MAY INCLUDE

- Apprenticeships
- Career growth
- Daycare
- Dental and medical plans
- Employee assistance plans
- Pensions
- Ongoing training

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

B.C. and Alberta have sawfiler apprentice programs. At a minimum you must have a grade 10 education or equivalent to enter an apprenticeship. But a high school diploma is preferred by most employers. Three trades make up the saw trades: saw fitting, circular sawfiler and benchperson. Saw fitting is a two-year apprenticeship, and circular sawfiler and benchperson are one year each. An interprovincial *Red Seal* endorsement is also available to allow your skills to be officially recognized across Canada. But outside Alberta and B.C. you can apply for sawfiler jobs directly with forestry companies and receive on-the-job training.

Apprenticeship grants: Apprentices can receive up to \$4,000 in grants to pay tuition, travel, tools, or other expenses. If you are considering an apprenticeship, visit the interprovincial *Red Seal* program for information on how to get started. Here is a complete list of Canadian Universities and Colleges: thegreenestworkforce.ca/education