

# Register Today For Tie Grading Seminar

Final preparations are being made for the Railway Tie Association's (RTA) Annual Tie Grading Seminar, slated for Aug. 2-4 in the Roanoke/Salem, Va., area.

Fieldwork, including the Species Identification and Crosstie Grading Derby, will take place at the Koppers Inc. plant in Salem.

Students will receive instruction and perform field exercises covering untreated wood deterioration, storage and handling, species identification, defects and grading, treating technology, and more.

This year, the seminar has been expanded to include three full days of instruction to accommodate a variety of learning experiences, including grading station videos, discussion and testing, as well as an additional review session on species identification. The course has also been revamped to give more one-on-one time with instructors at the full-sized tie grading session on day two of the seminar.

"Our instructors have worked very hard the past few years to evolve the seminar in meaningful ways," Gauntt



Make plans to attend the Railway Tie Association's Annual Tie Grading Seminar, slated for Aug. 2-4 in the Roanoke Valley area of Virginia. Fieldwork will take place at the Koppers Inc. plant in Salem. For more information, contact Debbie Corallo at dcorallo@rta.org or call her at (770) 460-5553.

said. "We have updated it again this year with several new presentations designed to enhance the learning experience and make this the best offering of its type anywhere."

A roster of "distinguished experts in the forest products industry will provide seminar instruction," Gauntt said, who is also serving as an instructor. Other instructors include Marshall L. Allen,

district manager, Track and Right of Way Maintenance for Metrolink Commuter Rail System in Southern California; Terry Conners, associate extension professor at the University of Kentucky; Jeff Morrell, a researcher at Oregon State University in the Department of Forest Products; and Jimmy Watt, owner of The Crosstie Connection in Austinville, Va.

The cost of the seminar is \$525, which includes the price of the seminar, take-home materials, Sunday night reception and dinner Monday night (sponsored by Koppers).

Attendees should arrange for their own accommodations by the July 1 deadline through the Holiday Inn Tanglewood in Roanoke by calling (540) 774-4400. Attendees must ask for the RTA room block during the registration process to receive the negotiated \$113 per night rate (not including tax) for a single room or \$137 per night (not including tax) for a double room. The rate includes breakfast and lunch on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. \$

## For More Information

Contact RTA Administrator  
Debbie Corallo at dcorallo@rta.org  
or (770) 460-5553.

A complete agenda is available at  
[www.rta.org](http://www.rta.org).

## CROSSTIE GRADING SEMINAR

August  
2-4



✂ Cut Here

Yes, I will be attending the **2009 TIE GRADING SEMINAR FOR \$525**

Please call the **Holiday Inn Tanglewood – Roanoke, VA location at 540.774.4400** to make your hotel reservations. The Railway Tie Association negotiated rate for a single room is **\$113/night + tax** and **\$137/night + tax** for a double room. Room block will be lifted **July 1st!** The course will begin at 8:45 a.m. on Sunday, August 2.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 COMPANY \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 TYPE OF BUSINESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
 ANTICIPATED ARRIVAL TIME \_\_\_\_\_

### PAYMENT TYPE

- CHECK (make payable to Railway Tie Association)  
 VISA, MASTERCARD, AMERICAN EXPRESS, DISCOVER

NAME ON CARD AND BILLING ADDRESS IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
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TOTAL PAID \_\_\_\_\_  
 CARD # \_\_\_\_\_  
 EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 SECURITY CODE \_\_\_\_\_  
3- or 4-digit validation code from back of card  
 (Front of card for AMEX card holders)

Please include **\$525 REGISTRATION FEE** with this form and mail or fax to  
 RTA, 115 Commerce Dr., Suite C, Fayetteville, GA  
 30214 • Fax 770.460.5573

Register online at [www.rta.org](http://www.rta.org)!