

Northwest Hardwoods Employee Spotlight

Erica Burkett
Debarker Operator
Marienville, PA

It's evident that Erica's vast work ethic, and desire to learn all that she can from her position, are the key points to why she is such a star employee. Erica joined NWH through her interest in Logistics and decided she wanted to immerse herself in that line of work. Now, a Debarker Operator, she has immensely appreciated all the knowledge she has gained from her time here, thus far, and currently sees herself running headsaw, resaw, and management ten years down the line. Considering her rapid growth, and her immense pleasure in this very growth, it would not be far off to see this goal become a reality. And the fact that she would describe her career, thus far, as the movie "Are We There Yet" proves that she may be just a bit eager to get to that goal much quicker than ten years. A strong work morale is obviously very important to Erica, and her key piece of advice for a new employee would be to "stick to it and strive harder, no matter what". This bright advice is the exact reason why the person that she feels she works hardest for is herself, because she knows "she's the only one who can get herself to where she's headed". As well as why she admires her coworker Brian Popeleo, so much, since she finds him to be a very hard worker.

Even outside of the workplace, it's evident that Erica values all sorts of knowledge. This desire to learn all that she can has brought her the knowledge of knowing that money is not paper, and how to correctly count to ten in Chinese. On the days that advancement in the work place isn't the first thing on her mind she rather enjoys riding her four wheelers and horses. Erica considers her life mantra to be "to laugh and smile as much as humanly possible", and she just simply couldn't imagine her life without these two important facets. Through learning to value these traits later in life, Erica has decided that if she could go back to her sixteen-year-old self, she feels she would tell herself to just be patient in life.

It's truly not a surprise that through her strong morale and fascinations with all sorts of knowledge, that she has found herself within the good graces of many people she has worked alongside. And it's evident that these very traits are what has made her, and will forever make her, a second-to-none sort of employee.