

WHEN IT COMES TO THE ENVIRONMENT, MATERIAL CHOICE MATTERS

Forests used for harvesting continue to thrive in the United States and Canada because of the lumber industry's expertise in conservation, climate change awareness, and dedication to sustainable forestry practices.

In fact, deforestation in North America is among the lowest globally, and forest growth has outpaced harvesting for many decades.

RE-FORESTATION NOT DEFORESTATION

Private forest owners have a strong economic incentive to sustainably manage their land for the long-term.

Forest products companies invest heavily in research and improved forest management to promote forest productivity.

Today, private forest owners grow more than 40% more wood than they can remove!

From 1953 to 2011, total forest growth has increased by 50%.

EXISTING FORESTS AND NEW PLANTINGS ARE CRITICAL IN THE FIGHT AGAINST GLOBAL WARMING




Trees clean air by absorbing CO₂, the main contributor to global warming.

Once harvested and manufactured, wood continues to store carbon throughout its lifetime.³

Afforestation (the creation of new forests) may help limit global warming while restoring habitats and reviving rural communities.⁴

By 2100, new forests could offset seven years' worth of global CO₂ emissions.⁴

WOOD IS THE ONLY RENEWABLE STRUCTURAL MATERIAL

-  Responsible forest management has resulted in more than 50 consecutive years of net forest growth.⁵
-  Wood is the only building material derived from a sustainably managed resource, with oversight from third-party certification programs.⁶
-  When managed responsibly, forests provide essentials to human life – air, water, food, and a sustainable built environment.



SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY IS A HALLMARK OF THE LUMBER INDUSTRY

The lumber industry is committed to protecting our nation's forests from over-harvesting.

The United States and Canada are leaders in forest management. National policies on both sides of the border ensure our forests can thrive while our economies continue to grow.⁶

Our commitment to sustainable forestry will continue well into the 21st century, as we develop new techniques and technologies to protect our natural resources.

1. Strong Markets for Wood Products Mitigate Forest Loss, National Alliance of State Forest Owners

2. Future of America's Forests and Rangelands, USFS

3. Carbon Benefits of Wood-Based Products and Energy, USFS

4. Mapped: Where 'afforestation' is taking place around the world, Carbon Brief

5. U.S. Forest Facts and Historical Trends, USFS

6. Sustainable Forestry in North America, WoodWorks

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