

Print and Paper The Facts

Paper production supports sustainable forest management

Paper manufacturers encourage forest sustainability through their purchase and use of certified wood fiber and support for sustainable forest management policies and practices at home and around the globe. By providing a dependable market for responsibly grown fiber, the North American paper industry encourages landowners to continue managing their forestland instead of selling it for development or other non-forest uses.

- Claims like “go paperless - save trees” create a false impression that forests are a finite resource, being destroyed. In truth, North American forests are a renewable resource that is continuously replenished using sustainable forest management.¹
- Avoiding the use of wood is not the way to protect forests for the long term. It is precisely the areas of the world that consume the least wood that continue to experience the greatest forest loss.² Continued use of paper and other wood products may be key to maintaining our forested landscape. This realization is reflected in today’s third-party forest certification systems that aim to offer a market-based system for supporting the sustainable growth, harvesting, and consumption of forest products.³
- Over the last 60 years, the net total U.S. forest area has increased by over 3% and the net volume of trees on forestland has increased by 58%.⁴ In Canada, the forest cover has remained stable over the last two decades and the area harvested each year represents less than 0.5% of Canada’s 860 million acres of total forest land.⁵
- “Responsibly managed forests are necessary for the maintenance of biodiversity and ecosystems services, both on individual sites and within the wider landscape. Forest management, including intensive commercial management, can be a critical and cost-effective conservation tool within larger-scale conservation strategies. Well-managed commercial or community forests can for example provide vital buffers for and links between protected areas. Forest management should therefore seek to maintain forest quality and not degrade either the timber resource or the range of associated goods and services (non-timber forest products, environmental services, biodiversity, spiritual values, recreational uses, etc.)”⁶
- About a third of the volume of paper and paperboard produced in the U.S. is made up of recovered fiber. The remaining two-thirds come from trees harvested as pulpwood, wood chips, and other residues obtained from sawmill trimmings.⁷ In Canada, only 13% of the wood fiber to make paper comes from trees. The rest comes from sawmill residues (59%) and recycled paper (28%).⁸
- All members of the American Forest and Paper Association (AF&PA) owning forestland must conform to one or more of the major credible certification systems in the U.S. These include the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC); the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) program; and systems endorsed by the international Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC). In North America, PEFC has endorsed the Canadian Standards Association program and the American Tree Farm System®.⁹ [AF&PA member companies make more than 75% of U.S. pulp, paper, paper-based packaging and wood building materials.]
- Private forests provide more than 90% of U.S. wood and paper products.¹⁰ The income landowners receive for trees grown on their land encourages them to maintain, sustainably manage and renew this valuable resource. This is an especially important consideration in places facing economic pressures to convert forestland to non-forest uses.
- Fifty-eight percent of the 766 million acres of U. S. forestland (444 million acres) is privately owned.¹¹ Of this private forest land, 62% (260 million acres) is owned by families and individuals in what we call “family forests.” The millions of America’s family forest owners are diverse, dynamic and pivotal for the protection and sustainable management of forests across the landscape. The remaining private forest land is owned by corporations, conservation organizations,



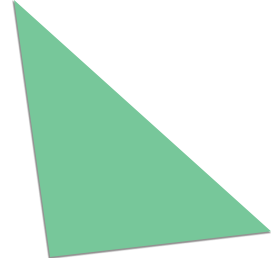
To help support Two Sides educational efforts, join us as member company - go to www.twosidesna.org

Print and Paper
have a great
environmental
story to tell



www.twosidesna.org

Print and Paper The Facts



clubs, Native American tribes, and others. The Federal government administers 76% of the public forestland. State forestry, park and wildlife agencies account for most of the 21% of public forestland that is state-owned. The remaining 3% of the public forestland is owned by local governments, such as counties and towns.¹²

- Canada has 398 million acres of forest independently certified as sustainably managed by at least one of the following: the Canadian Standards Association (CSA), Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) or Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)¹³. This is over 40% of the world's certified forests.¹⁴
- In Canada, 94% of the forests are on public lands. By law, all forests harvested on public lands must be regenerated.¹⁵



- The Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement (CBFA) between environmental NGOs and the forest industry is the world's largest conservation initiative. The Agreement recognizes that "although the responsibility for the future of forestry and conservation in Canada's boreal forest rests primarily with governments, both industry and environmentalists have a duty to help define that future. The CBFA provides both parties with a plan to work towards a stronger, more

competitive forestry industry and a better protected, more sustainably managed boreal forest." The CBFA holds both industry and conservation groups equally accountable for finding solutions to economic and environmental objectives through the use of science-based actions.¹⁶

- While total forestland area in the U.S. has been relatively stable over the last century, a net loss of 16-34 million acres (2.0-4.4%) is projected between 2010 and 2060. Most of that loss will be caused by urbanization and other land development.¹⁷
- "Steady demand for residential and other development continues to fragment forest ecosystems both in urban areas and in more natural environments that are targets for vacation and retirement home development."¹⁸
- "Since the Earth Summit of 1992, the need to manage forests sustainably has been well-recognized by the international community."¹⁹ The future of a thriving print and paper industry, and all its economic spin-offs, also depends on well-managed and healthy forests.
- As part of its Better Practices, Better Planet 2020 initiative, the U.S. paper and forest products industry is encouraging forest sustainability by seeking further increases in the amount of fiber procured from certified forest lands or through certified fiber sourcing programs in the U.S. by 2020. The industry is also working with governments, industry and other stakeholders to promote policies around the globe to reduce illegal logging. Better Practices, Better Planet 2020 is the most extensive and quantifiable set of sustainability goals for any major manufacturing industry in the United States. Paper and forest products companies will be accountable for achieving these goals by transparently reporting the industry's progress through an annual report on paper recovery and a biennial Sustainability Report published by their primary trade group, the American Forest and Paper Association.²⁰

¹ [Dovetail Partners, 2014](#)

² [Dovetail Partners, 2014](#)

³ [Dovetail Partners, 2014](#)

⁴ [USDA Forest Service, 2012](#)

⁵ [Natural Resources Canada, 2014](#)

⁶ [World Wildlife Fund, 2010](#)

⁷ [Dovetail Partners, 2014](#)

⁸ [Forest Products Association of Canada, 2012](#)

⁹ [American Forest and Paper Association, 2012](#)

¹⁰ [USDA Forest Service, 2014](#)

¹¹ [USDA Forest Service 2014](#)

¹² [USDA and US Forest Service, 2008](#)

¹³ [Canadian Institute of Forestry, 2015](#)

¹⁴ [Natural Resources Canada, 2014](#)

¹⁵ [Natural Resources Canada, 2014](#)

¹⁶ [Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement, 2010](#)

¹⁷ [USDA Forest Service, 2012](#)

¹⁸ [USDA Forest Service, 2011](#)

¹⁹ [UN Forum on Forests Secretariat, 2007](#)

²⁰ [American Forest and Paper Association, 2012](#)

To help support Two Sides educational efforts, join us as member company - go to www.twosidesna.org

Print and Paper
have a great
environmental
story to tell



www.twosidesna.org