Paper and Sustainable Forestry

Sustainable forest management practices in North America ensure healthy and abundant forests for present and future generations, while providing renewable, natural, raw materials for the production of paper and packaging products.1

U.S. timberlands had a net growth to removals ratio of 1.92 in 2016, indicating that nearly twice as much wood is being grown as is being harvested.2

Most harvested trees are used to make lumber, not pulp and paper. In the U.S., only 36% of annual timber harvest is used for paper and paperboard and in Canada, only 13%.3,4

In Canada, forest area has remained quite stable over the past 25 years and the country harvests only 0.2% of its forestlands each year.5

Continued use of paper and other wood products may be a key factor in maintaining a forested landscape for future generations.6

Over half of U.S. forestland is owned and managed by about 11 million private forest owners,7 who supply 90% of the wood to make paper products.

Forest certification programs—
including ATFS (American Tree Farm System®), FSC® (Forest Stewardship Council®), PEFC (Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification), and SFI® (Sustainable Forestry Initiative®) — provide a set of standards and structure for sustainable forest management.8

RESPONSIBLE Pulp and paper operations can bring many benefits to forests, local economies and people, particularly in rural areas.7

Two Sides North America is a non-profit initiative by companies in the graphic communications and paper-based packaging industry. We promote the sustainability of print and paper products and dispel common environmental misconceptions by providing verifiable information on why print, paper and paper-based packaging are a sustainable, practical and attractive way to deliver value to all who use them. Become a member today!

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