



American
Forest & Paper
Association
www.afandpa.org

SUSTAINABILITY and the Forest Products Industry



Our Commitment...

HOW WE DEFINE SUSTAINABILITY

In the forest products industry, sustainability means that we strive to ensure our resources will be as plentiful and available to future generations as they are today; to preserve and grow the economic contributions of the industry and its businesses; and to foster the well-being of the communities where we live and work. Sustainable practices—forest management, efficient manufacturing, energy generation and conservation, and fiber recovery and recycling—define our dedication to protecting our environment and meeting our economic and societal commitments. These sustainable practices are the foundation of our industry.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

Our industry is uniquely able to make a difference environmentally and economically through our dedication to stewardship; our connection to renewable forests; our commitment to recycling and product innovation; and our contributions to our working communities. While making products that support society's needs, we strive to achieve the highest standard of environmental performance.

We welcome our role and responsibility to serve as stewards of the forests and the environment for present and future generations. Forests are essential to a healthy environment—sustaining vital plants and wildlife, filtering our water and air, and reducing greenhouse gases by removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Forests are also an economic resource, providing a plentiful and renewable natural material that we use responsibly to produce our products—many of them recyclable.

Through continued strong economic performance and by supporting the needs of the communities in which we live and work, we contribute to their short- and long-term environmental, social, and economic well-being and to the well-being of the customers and consumers we serve. We reach out to our stakeholders to benefit from their views and expertise. We're listening—and sharing what we learn to drive continuous improvement.

Sustainability is our nature.





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WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE FUTURE

The forest products industry is a leader in sustainability. With strong practices in place, we continually strive to improve.

SUSTAINABLE USE OF RENEWABLE RESOURCES

We use wood fiber, a renewable resource, to sustainably manufacture products that people value and that enhance their quality of life. We do this through responsible forest management, product innovation, fiber and product recovery and recycling, and continuous improvement of manufacturing processes and energy generation.

LEADING THE WAY IN RECYCLING

We continue to lead in the area of paper recycling—from setting realistic and meaningful recovery goals to investing in technology to improve recovery and reuse of those materials. Our efforts to steadily increase the recovery of consumed paper, educate the public, and ensure that recovered fiber is used to make new products is a key to our sustainability.

REDUCING OUR ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT

Through forest regeneration, recovery, recycling, and efficient use of raw materials, and through investments to continually improve environmental, manufacturing, and energy performance, the forest products industry strives to reduce its impact on the environment—to sustain natural resources for today and for future generations.

GENERATING AND CONSERVING ENERGY AND MATERIALS

For decades, the forest products industry has been a leader in energy management. We demonstrate our leadership through electricity self-generation and co-generation; production and use of energy from renewable, carbon-neutral biomass; and energy and materials conservation. We are committed to improving our record of accomplishment.

REDUCING GREENHOUSE GASES

The forest products industry helps reduce greenhouse gases every day. We carefully manage forests that absorb carbon dioxide; manufacture products that store carbon; produce and use renewable energy; reduce our emissions of greenhouse gases; and recover and reuse paper fiber, thereby extending the fiber supply and avoiding methane emissions. Through these and other actions, the industry reduces its carbon footprint.

BENEFITING THE COMMUNITIES, EMPLOYEES, AND FAMILIES

EVERYWHERE OUR PRODUCTS ARE MADE AND SOLD

The continued strong economic performance of the forest products industry contributes to the social and economic well-being of our employees, the people who use our products, and the communities where we live and work. We provide livelihoods for millions of families, offering good jobs, and supporting businesses that depend on the health of our industry throughout our supply chain and in local communities. We support the communities where we operate through our economic, social, and environmental contributions.

