

BUSTING MYTHS ABOUT HOW PAPER IS MADE

There are more trees in North America now than 100 years ago. Despite popular belief, most trees harvested from sustainably managed forests in the U.S. and Canada are NOT used to make paper but rather other forest products like lumber. This infographic shows how paper is a renewable and recyclable natural resource.

Trees are a renewable resource! In the U.S. & Canada, **we grow many more trees** than we harvest every year.^{1,2}

Most trees in North America are **harvested to make lumber** and other **solid wood products**, not paper.

In North America, **less than 36%** of the annual timber harvest is directly used for making paper and paperboard.^{3,4}

Pulpwood trees that are unsuitable for lumber manufacturing are **grown & harvested specifically to make pulp & paper.**

Pulpwood and wood chips are **transformed into pulp** using a variety of processes.

Paper is **pressed, dried, and made into large rolls or sheets**, which are packaged for sale to customers.

Thousands of **paper products** enrich our lives every day!

Use paper **responsibly** and **recycle** so it can be **reused to make new products!**

Paper can be recycled 5-7 times before the wood fibers break down. This is why we always need fresh wood fiber from sustainably managed forests.⁵

In North America, the share of **recovered paper** used in papermaking is **expected to grow** from 34.2% in 2014 to 39.5% in 2030 and most of that increase will be in cardboard.⁶

Paper is one of the most recycled materials in the world today, with **recovery rates of 65%** and higher in North America.⁷



Two Sides is a non-profit initiative by companies from the graphic communications industry. We promote the responsible production and use of print and paper, and dispel common environmental misconceptions by providing verifiable information on why print on paper is an attractive, practical and sustainable communications medium. Become a member today!

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