

Life cycle of wood building products



sustainable resources

Wood products are produced from trees, a naturally renewable resource. More wood is grown each year in the U.S. than is harvested.



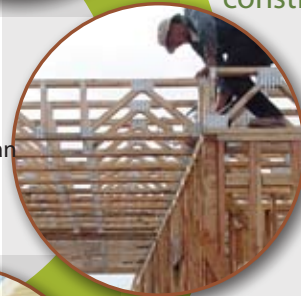
responsible manufacturing

Waste is virtually eliminated when trees are used to make wood products. Bark, trims and sawdust are used as an energy source to help power wood production facilities. It takes far less energy and fossil fuels to produce wood products than to manufacture concrete and steel.



quality construction

As a building material, wood offers a unique combination of benefits, including strength, affordability, ease-of-use and environmental superiority.



recycle renew

At the end of their initial service life, wood products are easily recycled for other uses. Wood contributes fewer greenhouse gas emissions than non-renewable steel and concrete.



long service life

The durability of wood products contributes to the long life of a home. Wood products also store carbon, reducing the amount of carbon in the atmosphere.



renovation upgrade

The flexibility of wood makes renovating a home easy and affordable. Wood is builder-friendly, as well as environmentally friendly. Wood also enhances the aesthetic value of a home when used as flooring, cabinetry, furniture and molding.



Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)

LCA is an objective, science-based method to compare environmental impacts of product choices and building assemblies. Wood products have been shown to outperform other materials based on environmental measures such as embodied energy and greenhouse gas emissions. LCA systems used for analyzing the environmental impacts of building products include:

- Athena® EcoCalculator for Assemblies
- Athena® Impact Estimator for Buildings
- Building for Environmental and Economic Sustainability – BEES