

Why Wood is Greener

Earth Friendly

Wood is renewable, sustainable, recyclable, durable, and biodegradable. Steel and plastic, on the other hand, are made from non-renewable sources.

Strong insulation value

As an insulator, wood is four times more efficient than an equivalent thickness of cinder block; six times more efficient than brick; 15 times more efficient than concrete, 206 times more efficient than steel, and 1,770 times more efficient than aluminum.

More abundant today

The US has for more trees today than it did in the 1920's - even though the population has increased by 143%; 97% of all homes are framed with wood and wood products, and use of wood per capita in North America exceeds any place else in the world.

Wood products save petroleum

Using pressure-treated wood instead of steel, concrete, or plastic saves as much as 32 million barrels of petroleum each year.

Manufacturing processes use less energy

Wood products make up 47% of all industrial raw material manufactured in the U.S., yet consume only 4% of the energy needed to do that. Comparing total energy costs of other building materials - the costs to acquire the raw material, transport it, process it into a useful product and then use it - wood outshines its competitors. For example, steel wall studs require almost nine times more energy to produce than wood studs.

Wood products help provide cleaner air and reduce global warming

Our lumber products are produced from plentiful, fast-growing species of trees from managed forestland. Young-growth trees remove millions of tons of carbon each year, which helps reduce potential impacts of global warming.

Life-cycle analysis shows many advantages of wood compared to man-made materials

Environmentalists use life-cycle analysis to measure the environmental impact of a product. The life-cycle analysis of pressure-treated wood shows that it's environmentally superior because it uses renewable resources and recycled material, requires little energy to produce and distribute, and produces little waste.

WHY ARE TROPICAL HARDWOODS A BETTER CHOICE THAN COMPOSITES?



- NATURAL
- RENEWABLE
- RECYCLABLE
- BIO-DEGRADABLE
- SUSTAINABLE
- MUCH LESS ENERGY TO PRODUCE
- LESS CHEMICALS
- BETTER INSULATION
- SAVES PETROLEUM
- STORES CO2
- HELP REDUCING POVERTY
- VERY ABUNDANT
- ECO-FRIENDLY



CONS AGAINST COMPOSITE DECKING

- Artificial looks
- Dull colors
- Passing resemblance to real wood
- Still soaks some water
- Harder and more expensive to recycle
- Less rigidity than wood
- Deformation in hot weather
- Sensitivity to staining due to porosity
- Higher energy costs to manufacture offsets environmental claims.

