

## Tree Farm and SFI Recognized by LEED Standards

Earlier this week, the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), the governing body for the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standard announced it is encouraging more responsibly sourced building materials and thus will begin recognizing wood from American Tree Farm System (ATFS) certified forests through a new path to earn a LEED credit.

This is a milestone victory for Tree Farmers. This will help provide market recognition for wood from land certified through ATFS as well as from the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI), and Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC), and the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).

This path will allow a significantly larger portion of sustainable wood products to qualify for the LEED standard, allowing more wood to be used in green buildings thus creating more markets for family woodland owners.

-- As reported in the Texas Forestry Association's Weekly Newsletter (8 April 2016)