

10 REASONS WHY FORESTS MATTER!

Forests cover 31% of the world's land. They are home to 80% of land-based biodiversity and more than 300 million people worldwide. Forests produce oxygen, replenish and filter groundwater, secure soil, and regulate air temperature. Forests offer a place to educate and inspire future generations to connect to nature and become stewards of the natural environment.

When sustainably managed, forests provide solutions to some of our most pressing global challenges:

1. **Addressing climate change** by capturing carbon from the atmosphere and storing carbon long-term in wood products. Forests are also an emerging source of renewable biofuels.
2. **Helping recover species at risk** by providing habitat, including safe and diverse places for animals to live, migrate, and breed, and landscapes where a variety of plants can grow.
3. **Delivering additional ecosystem services** by supporting soil nutrient cycling, purifying air and water, mitigating droughts and floods, and more.
4. **Providing renewable supply chains** for products we use every day such as sustainably sourced paper, cardboard, and wood, utilizing forest certification as a proof point. Renewable forest products are part of a circular economy that minimizes the depletion of non-renewable resources.
5. **Sustaining communities and economies** by supporting diverse career opportunities, driving economic activity, and contributing to community vitality through employee engagement and support for local initiatives.
6. **Providing a place to learn and discover** to understand our connection with the natural world and build the skills needed to grow.
7. **Contributing social and cultural benefits** by providing recreational spaces and sustaining traditional resource uses and places for spiritual renewal.
8. **Lowering rates of asthma and respiratory illness** in cities by purifying urban air.
9. **Lowering the temperature of urban heat islands** with shade and by transpiring moisture into the air.
10. **Developing new medicines** and sustaining traditional plant-based medicines.



As we grapple with environmental challenges like climate change and demand for resources, our forests are more important than ever.