

AN INTRODUCTION TO SOUTHERN MARYLAND'S

Forestry Industry



SMADC is a division of the
TRI-COUNTY COUNCIL
for SOUTHERN MARYLAND





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Importance

Forests are majestic and trees can mean many things to many people. They can ground us, providing a mental vacation from the stress of everyday life. They provide us with shelter, tables and chairs to gather with family and friends. They provide us with warmth and products we depend on each and every day.

Trees are among the world's most important resources. They cleanse the air we breathe, filter the water we drink, protect the soil from erosion, and act as an important buffer against climate change.

Forests are home to a wide variety of plants and animals, as well as critical natural resources such as timber, food, and medicinal herbs. They provide wildlife habitats, renewable raw materials for energy, shelter, paper goods, and recreational possibilities that improve quality of life.

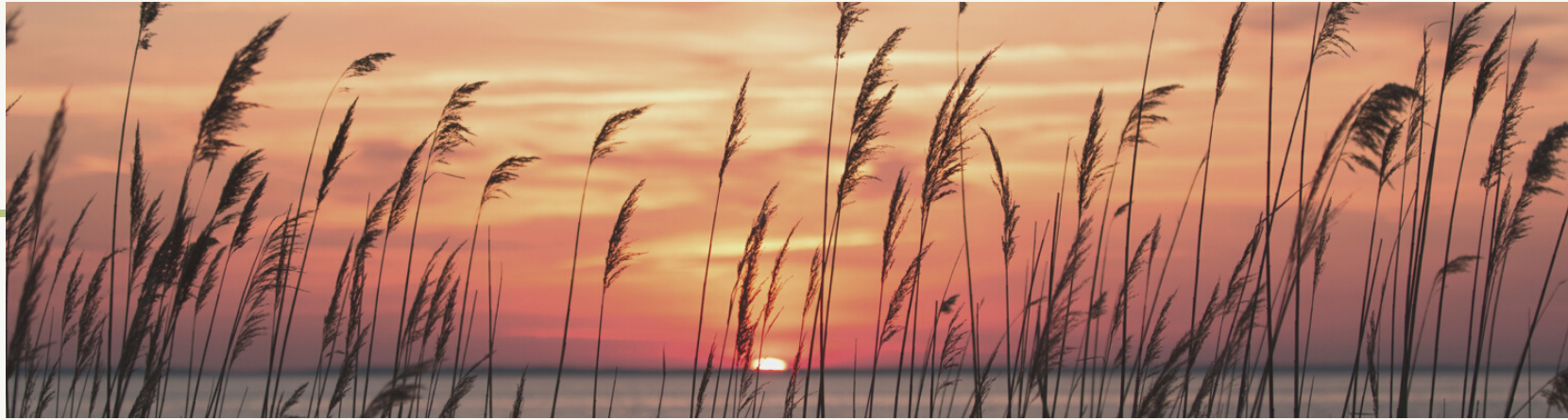
Benefits

Trees are a renewable resource. They can regenerate on their own or be replanted within a relatively short period of time, much like farming a crop.

Actively managing forests creates and maintains a healthy habitat for a variety of wildlife to flourish, from commonly seen game species appreciated by hunters and fishermen to some of the most rare and endangered species remaining.

Often, accomplishing the work done to improve the mixture of trees growing in the forest, or the sizes of those trees will also provide access to hiking, biking, skiing and other forms of recreation that are directly related to forest management.





The Chesapeake Bay is both a state and national treasure, and many Maryland residents are committed to preserving and improving it. Harvesting from actively managed forests ensures a sustainable supply of timber, supports the health of the Chesapeake Bay, and helps mitigate climate change.



Having viable timber markets enables landowners to do the hard work often needed in the forest, and incentivizes landowners to retain and maintain their forests into the future, often providing an alternative to selling their land, likely to result in development.



It also encourages the implementation of forest management plans which provide the forest owner with a path towards healthy and sustainable forests. In fact, many climate experts believe that a responsibly managed forest offers one of the least expensive and best ways to mitigate climate change by sequestering carbon and using carbon-neutral renewable energy.

Economic Contributions

The forestry industry in Maryland plays an important role in the local economy by providing jobs, and stimulating spending. In 2017, the statewide industry directly contributed about \$4.2 billion and supported 18,046 jobs in the Maryland economy.

In Southern Maryland, forestry businesses contribute over \$585 million to the state economy, supporting more than 3,000 jobs.

Currently there is no branding or organized marketing campaign to help Maryland made forestry products to compete within the market, nor is there any coordination within the products industry itself. Such coordination could have a sizable additional impact on Maryland's economy.



How Do Forests Help the Chesapeake Bay?

They protect water quality by capturing rainfall, stabilizing soils, and helping to reduce erosion.

They improve air quality by absorbing pollutants and reducing temperatures in cities.

They improve our quality of life by providing a place of natural beauty as well as recreation and tourism, stimulating our local economy.

They provide habitats for aquatic species by lowering water temperatures and provide nesting sites, safe migration paths and food for wildlife.



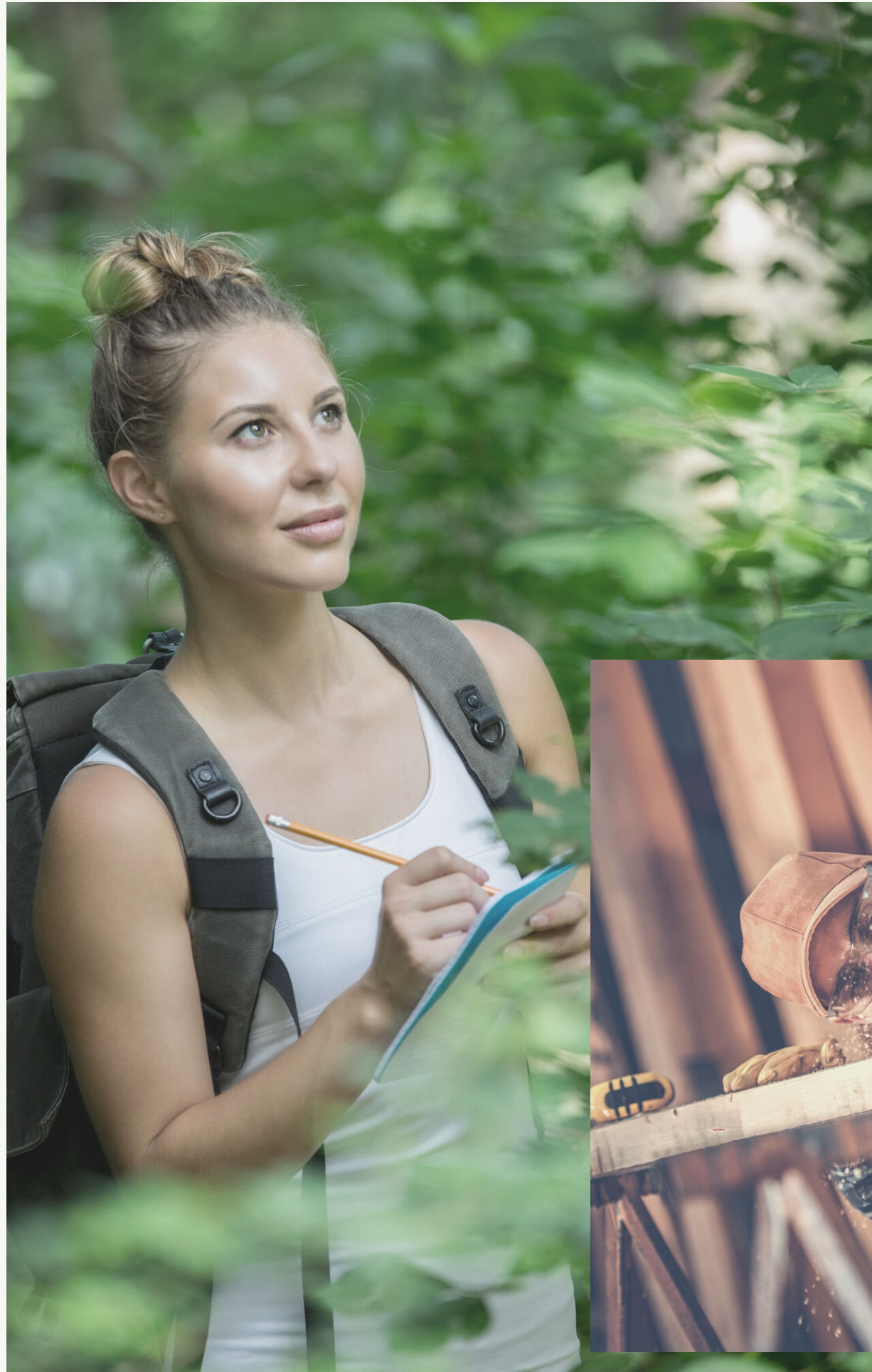
Opportunities

The opportunities are endless for landowners and farmers who are interested in establishing or developing woodland for timber, protecting natural resources, providing habitat for wildlife, as well as reducing their carbon footprint.

As a consumer, there are many opportunities to support Maryland's forestry industry. For starters, make an effort to seek out and buy locally sourced wood products, which helps contribute to local small businesses and the agricultural economy. All across the state, large and small-scale woodworkers have carved out careers, finding a second life for these trees.

Career opportunities within the forestry industry are vast. Southern Maryland workers rely on the forests for steady, dependable work. While forests appear to require little management, entire careers are spent managing forests, harvesting wood, and replanting trees.





Careers founded in forests are many: a long list of forest-based professions includes foresters, forest technicians, heavy equipment operators, specially licensed truck drivers, wildland firefighters, lumber graders, machine operators, scalers and graders, accountants, bookkeepers, salespersons, wood machinists, finishers, project specifiers, and more.

Employers in the region include loggers, landowners, public government agencies such as State of Maryland and Department of Defense, sawmills, shavings mills, kiln operators, cabinet makers, millwork shops, and other businesses like these.

In Southern Maryland, students are fortunate to have The Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center, which offers a wide variety of career specific programs in Natural Resources, including Forestry. These programs enable students to gain technical and academic skills as well as a "head-start" for employment or continuing education.

Misconceptions

Although forestry can be a form of agriculture, common perceptions of forestry are much less defined than those of farming. The general public has a difficult time picturing forestry professionals and is likely unaware of the wood products grown and manufactured in Maryland.

A common misconception is that every tree needs to remain to have a healthy forest. As important as it is to grow trees, it's equally important to manage them. Without landowners and professionals working together to ensure the health of our forests, we can compromise the health of soil, trees, and natural resources in the forest, resulting in environmental and financial losses.

Consumers in Maryland's more densely populated areas are surprised to learn that the state has a sizable forestry industry that provides significant environmental and economic benefits. Forests cover more than 39% percent of Maryland, the single largest land use in the state that happens to be the very best for protecting the Chesapeake Bay.



Forestry is poorly understood as an economic activity and an ecological practice, which has led to the widespread belief that tree harvesting is fundamentally detrimental for the environment rather than part of a sustainable supply chain that permits trees of various ages to survive in the landscape.

In fact, many of today's loggers operate expensive, sophisticated equipment designed to efficiently harvest trees with minimal disruption to the environment. Additionally, many are family-run businesses that operate with their futures in mind. After all, they live, work, and play around the forests they manage - so it is in their best interest to care for them.



Fun Forestry Facts

The White Oak is Maryland's official state tree. It is the most common oak species in Maryland, with populations in every county including Baltimore City.

Did you know that the black wrapper under a Reese's peanut butter cup started out as a pine tree? And likely from Southern Maryland!

Landscaping, especially with trees, can increase property values as much as 20%.

The forestry sector in Maryland is 10 times larger than the seafood sector.

Tree loss has a financial cost. Tree loss in the Baltimore-Washington region since 1973 has resulted in a 19% increase in stormwater runoff (540 million cubic feet) at a cost of \$1.08 billion.

For every 10,000 miles driven in a vehicle that gets 20 mpg, plant 15 trees to offset the CO2 production.

Forestry is the fifth largest manufacturing industry in Maryland, supporting more than 18,000 jobs.

Forest cover is the largest land-use in Maryland (39%) with 2.6 million acres of forest.

One acre of forest absorbs six tons of carbon dioxide and produces four tons of oxygen. This is enough to meet the annual needs of eighteen people.

List of Products

While almost everyone is aware that wood and paper products are derived from trees, we often forget that many other products that we use on a daily basis also come from trees.

This is a list of just some of the products the come from trees:

PRODUCTS FROM LIVE TREES

- acorns
- almonds
- apples
- bananas
- bay leaves
- chestnuts
- coconuts
- dates
- eucalyptus oil
- figs
- frankincense
- grapefruit
- lemons
- lemonade
- maple syrup
- olives
- oranges
- peaches
- pears
- pine needle extract
- rubber
- seed source
- shade
- tangerines
- walnuts
- windbreak

PRODUCTS FROM WOOD CHIPS AND SAWDUST

- cedarwood oils
- concrete forms
- dry process hardboard
- engineered beams
- fuel for sawmills
- high density overlay
- insulation board
- particleboard
- dissolving pulp
- paper pulp
- taxol (anti-cancer drug)
- underlayment
- wet process hardboard

PRODUCTS FROM SOLID WOOD

- airplane fuselages
- airplane propellers
- armories
- bagpipes
- bar stools
- bird houses
- boardwalks
- boat propellers
- bridges
- broom handles
- brushes
- cabinets
- cable reels
- canes
- cedar chests
- cedar closet liners
- chairs
- charcoal
- chopsticks
- church altars
- church pews
- coasters
- coffee tables
- coffins
- crutches
- cutting boards
- decks
- dog houses

PRODUCTS FROM SOLID WOOD

- doors
- drum sticks
- fence posts
- firewood
- futons
- gazebos
- grandfather clocks
- home insulation
- handrails
- jewelry
- matches
- modular homes
- musical instruments
- oars
- paint brush handles
- paneling
- pencils
- petrified wood
- picture frames
- popsicle sticks
- porch swings
- rafts
- railroad ties
- roller coasters
- rowboats
- sailboats
- shingles
- siding
- skewers
- tables
- tongue depressors
- totem poles
- toothpicks
- wine barrels
- wooden floors
- yacht decking



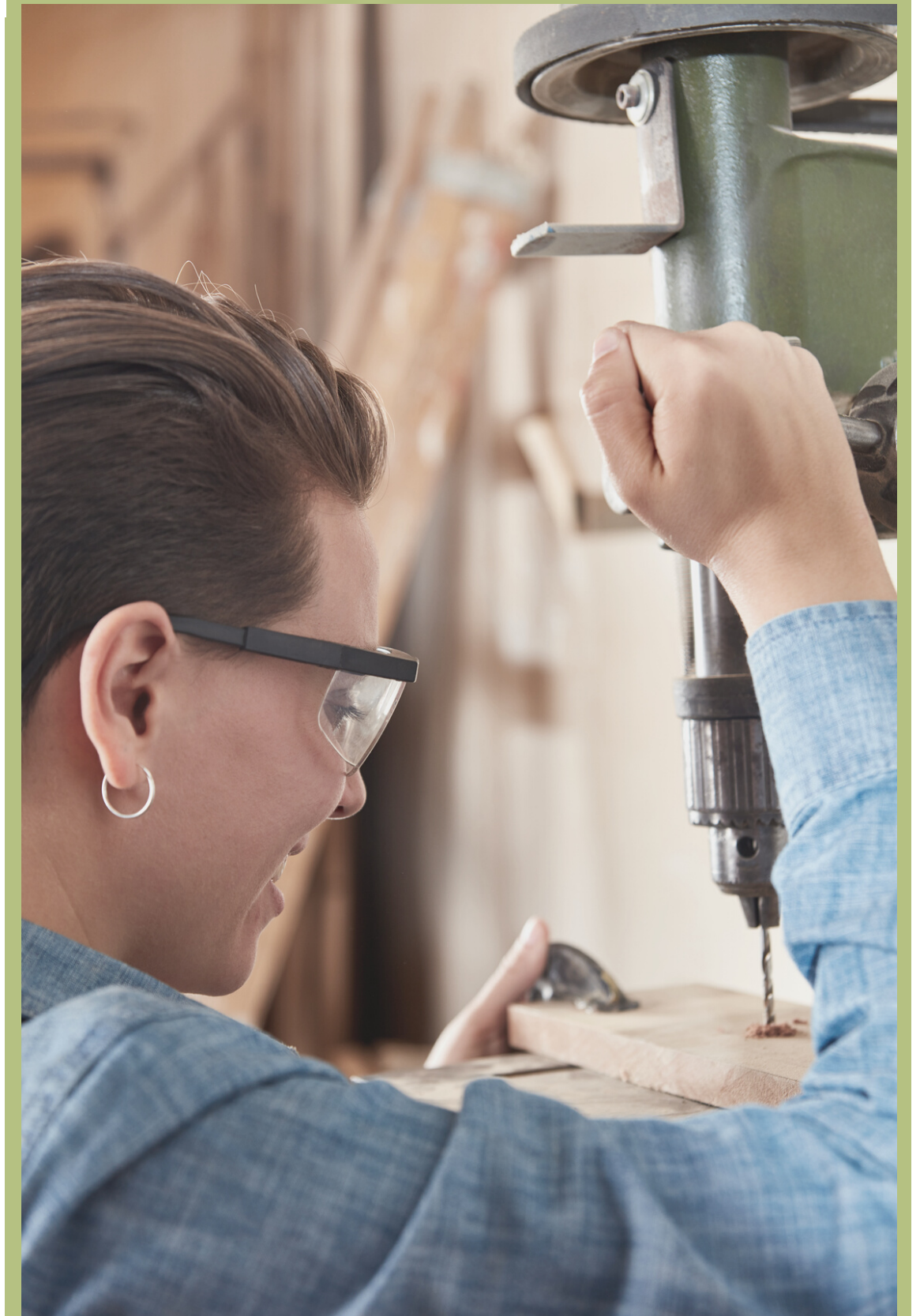
PRODUCTS FROM WOOD PULP

- absorbent waddings
- adhesive systems
- animal feed additives
- art paper
- bakery bags
- bed sheets
- binders
- blankets
- blouses
- books
- boxboard
- calendars
- cardboard boxes
- catalogs
- cigarette filter tips
- cellulose filters
- cellophane
- ceramics
- cereal boxes
- clock facings
- coffee filters
- copy paper
- cosmetic puffs
- detergent boxes
- dresses
- disposable diapers
- egg cartons
- electrical insulation
- emulsifiers
- envelopes
- facial tissue
- fast food wrapping
- fax paper
- film
- filter paper
- folders
- furnace insulation
- game boards
- greeting cards
- grocery bags
- insecticide sprays
- jigsaw puzzles

- juice cartons
- labels
- linerboard
- magazines
- manuals
- milk cartons
- napkins
- newspapers
- oil filters
- panel boards
- paper cups
- paper plates
- partitions
- pine tar
- playing cards
- price tags
- rayon
- sandpaper
- sanitary pads
- sausage casings
- seawalls
- seed starters
- speaker cones
- spiral notebooks
- stationery
- surgical gowns
- tea bags
- tissue paper
- toilet paper
- toys
- turpentine
- twines
- vanillin
- wallpaper
- wrapping paper
- writing paper

PRODUCTS FROM BARK

- arena footing for horses
- ashtrays
- baseballs
- bath mats
- beauty bark for gardens
- beehives
- candle holders
- carpet underlayment
- ceiling tiles
- cigarette boxes
- coasters for glasses
- cold storage insulation
- corkboards
- cork buoys
- cricket balls
- dart boards
- desk pads
- fishing net floats
- floor underlayment
- floor tiles
- fuel floats
- glass polishing
- golf balls
- golf clubs
- hogged fuel
- hot pads
- jar lids
- life jackets
- life buoys
- linoleum
- memo boards
- musical instruments
- pipe insulation
- safety helmets
- shoes
- shuttlecocks
- table tennis bats
- wall tiles
- water tight seals
- whistles
- wine corks



Acknowledgments

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