What's Most Important

IS WHAT YOU DON'T SEE



It is easy to see Conestoga Wood Specialties' commitment to high quality craftsmanship.

What you don't see in our finished product is the responsible care for renewable resources that are a part of Conestoga's longstanding core values — our roots you might say. Responsible practices are built into our company's operation from our lumber procurement and manufacturing processes to our support of environmental awareness activities. These are not newly discovered values, but deeply rooted principles that reflect who we are. Our Pennsylvania Dutch heritage laid the foundation for good stewardship in the use of resources. Wastefulness has never been an option.

Sustainable

Conestoga is committed to supporting sustainable forestry, believing it is the key to protecting the environment and natural resources our industry depends upon. The vast majority of our lumber is harvested and processed by companies that embrace sustainable, environmentally sound practices. In fact, most of our Cherry and Hard Maple is sourced from the Forest Stewardship Council certified forests in Pennsylvania. The loggers and sawmills that harvest timber from Pennsylvania state forests follow stringent state requirements that honor the Sustainable Forestry Board standards.

Lumber

In addition to purchasing lumber from certified forests, we also buy raw lumber from managed forests through privately held companies that employ environmental best management practices. These are long standing relationships that allow us to work together to ensure best management practices are followed. We employ a proprietary grading system, laser technology and thinner blades — all designed to use as much of the tree as possible. Good stewardship demands continuous improvement.

Stains & Finishes

Conestoga's commitment to the environment extends much further than the sourcing of our lumber. We are constantly reformulating finishes to lower VOC and HAPs emissions. Stains are hand applied, reducing the release of these emissions. We use a state-of-the-art automated spray system to apply sealer and topcoat, which minimizes overspray and allows us to recycle excess coating materials.

Practices

Conestoga recycles everything we can. Sawdust is recycled into composite building materials, cattle bedding and wood pellets for heat generation. We have drastically reduced the amount of corrugated materials through Zero Pack, our packaging method that ultimately minimizes packing waste. We recycle scrap metal, oil, computer monitors, fluorescent light bulbs, batteries, ink cartridges, and all types of paper and cardboard. Care for our environment is a mindset at Conestoga.

Community

Conestoga supports environmental awareness activities through community action. Through Conestoga's Urban Forestry Initiative, hundreds of trees are donated each year to various cities across the U.S. This program is part of an awareness campaign aimed at educating school children who, with the help of local civic authorities, are involved in the planting of the donated trees.

We encourage our employees at each of our locations to play an active role in their communities. We have taken part in a variety of environmental projects including:

- · The sponsorship of yearly summer forestry camps for school children
- · Fund an annual environmental grant program for local schools
- · Donation of science equipment and books to schools
- · Restoration of the local park and community areas
- · Donation of trees to Habitat for Humanity
- Construction of cabinetry for the Pennsylvania Department of Forestry's Wood Mobile, a traveling education display that participates in local fairs and shows

Our Deep Roots

Rooted in our heritage is a call to live simple lives. To be responsible with what we have been given and to manage it well. That makes it natural for us to embrace sound environmental practices. It's not new to us. It's who we are.



Conestoga Wood Specialties is a recipient of the Pennsylvania State Governor's Award of Environmental Excellence.





