



MICHIGAN  
**FOREST**  
PRODUCTS  
COUNCIL

## **'HAPPY EARTH DAY' FROM THE MICHIGAN FOREST PRODUCTS COUNCIL**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | | April 22, 2013

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**Lansing, Mich.**—The Michigan Forest Products Council is proud to reaffirm its commitment to protect, promote, and sustain Michigan's natural resources in honor of Earth Day.

The forest products industry is a highly sustainable industry, with 80 percent of North American forests defined as third-party certified as sustainably managed forests. As a part of worldwide observance of Earth Day, here are five ways Michigan's natural resources affect our daily life in the Great Lakes state:

1. Every year, Michigan citizens use 800 million cubic feet of wood products. Wood products are sustainable, environmentally- sound products that support an industry which employs 154,000 Michigianians every year.
2. Michigan's Great Lakes comprise 21 percent of global and 86 of North American freshwater resources. In order to protect is precious resources, MFPC supports the Michigan SFI Implementation Committee (SFI-IC) in their logger training program. In 2012 Michigan SFI-IC trained over 1,000 Michigan loggers.
3. More than 20 million acres of Michigan's landmass, or 55 percent, is forested, making it the single largest land use in the state. These versatile lands are owned by federal, state, and private owners and serve many different needs: from tourism and recreation to conservation and scientific study to management and harvest.
4. Forest management is carbon neutral. An acre of trees can remove about 13 tons of harmful gases from the atmosphere every year. Growing (young) trees rapidly store carbon, and forest management enables young growth in our forests.
5. Michigan's forests house rare and endangered species, including the Kirtland Warbler. MFPC member, Plum Creek, has taken great care and given attention to the Kirtland Warbler's habitat in Michigan's U.P. In the spring of 2009, foresters planted about 150,000 jack pine seedlings on the Yellow Dog Plains, northwest of Marquette, to create more habitat for the warbler.

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