



Georgia-Pacific

PROGRESS WITH PURPOSE

2021 Stewardship Report

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A man wearing a white hard hat, safety glasses, and an orange high-visibility vest over a plaid shirt and khaki pants stands in a forest. He is looking upwards and to the right. The forest has many thin trees and some fallen branches on the ground.

At Georgia-Pacific, we strive to be a preferred partner and drive continuous improvement to create sustainable outcomes that benefit society.

Sustainable outcomes that benefit society

A message from John Mulcahy, Vice President, Stewardship

The role of business in society is to help people improve their lives by providing products and services they value more highly than their alternatives, and to do so responsibly while consuming fewer resources. Georgia-Pacific (GP) has been helping people improve their lives for almost a century, providing solutions that create shelter, improve hygiene, offer convenience, extend shelf life, and protect goods in transit. We have been and continue to be an important part of the communities in which we operate, providing good jobs, and contributing to prosperity through our economic activity and the engagement of our company and employees in civic and philanthropic activities.

At GP, stewardship encompasses the responsible management of our actions and the resources entrusted to our care in a manner that respects the rights of others. Our focus is to make progress daily, improving performance by living a principle of stewardship, embracing creative destruction, improving efficiencies, eliminating waste, finding new ways of meeting needs, and driving conservation activities that leave more resources available to satisfy other needs in society. We hope you'll join us on this journey.

Learn more about how GP manages ecosystems.

JOHN MULCAHY 

INTRODUCTION

OUR PRINCIPLES OF PROGRESS

These principles guide our behavior as we work to help people improve their lives. Dive deeper into each one to discover the specific ways in which that impact comes to life.

Clarendon OSB SC

GEORGIA PACIFIC STEWARDSHIP

PROGRESS WITH PURPOSE

4

PRINCIPLES OF PROGRESS



CONSERVE

Natural Resources Conservation

From forest protection and biodiversity concerns to waste reduction and recycling, when it comes to **conservation**, we strive to be better today than yesterday. Better conservation, day after day. Learn how we're working with our suppliers and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) through conservation to protect water, enhance wildlife, restore vulnerable habitats, and ensure there are working forest for the future.



CHALLENGE

Non-Renewable Resource Use

Although our primary raw material, wood, is a renewable resource, our processes rely on non-renewable resources as well. Fossil fuels and chemicals are used in our manufacturing process, while plastics and gypsum rock are materials used to produce some of our products. Through transformative action, we **challenge** how we are using these resources while innovating to seek viable alternatives. See how we do it.



CONTROL

Emissions

The manufacturing of our products is resource intensive, requiring significant fiber, water, energy, chemicals, and labor. This conversion generates waste, including solid, liquid, and air emissions which, along with resource consumption, creates waste. Discover the ways in which we're constantly innovating to **control** these impacts and drive greater efficiency.



CONTRIBUTE

Sustainable Products

We create and **contribute** highly valued products to society while minimizing our impact. But how? Life-cycle thinking and creative destruction drive our processes. Throughout, we focus on choosing the best materials, minimizing the impact of our products in use, and building in end-of-life options, including recycling and composting where valuable. As a result, we're able to offer everyone choices they can feel good about.



CONNECT

Breaking Down Barriers

At GP, our commitment to social responsibility allows us to **connect** and contribute to philanthropic, activism, and charitable goals by engaging in and supporting volunteering as well as responsible and ethical practices. We celebrate the uniqueness of each individual and believe this diversity enables us to work together to identify opportunities, solve problems, and create greater value for others. Explore all the ways in which we empower our communities.



CONSERVE

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION

Serving as responsible stewards

How Georgia-Pacific ensures there are working forests for the future

Forests provide value to society in many ways. They help protect air and water quality, supply important habitat for wildlife, and offer recreational opportunities. Forests also provide economic value, with GP being one of the many companies that relies on them for the wood and wood fiber used to make the paper and building products people want and need. Though our business requires the use of this natural resource, we are committed to helping maintain healthy forests now and into the future, by using these resources more efficiently, and by sourcing responsibly, protecting endangered forests and special areas, while supporting wildlife conservation and biodiversity.

Responsible Sourcing

Georgia-Pacific is committed to only sourcing from sustainable, legal and responsible sources.

- **Over 90% Grown in the USA :** In aggregate, over 90% of the fresh fiber in our products is grown in the United States, where robust laws exist to protect the forest, air, water, and wildlife.
- **Our Suppliers Care:** The majority of our fiber is from private and family forest owners who have a legacy of responsible stewardship. As a result, U.S. forest growth has exceeded harvest since the 1950s.
- **Going Further:** For all purchases, including the forest materials sourced outside the U.S., we take additional steps to help ensure the fiber we receive is legal, sustainable, and incorporates social consideration. Such as:


GP's Due Diligence System:

- Building relationships with our suppliers and visiting the regions where they source fiber
- Incorporating social and environmental expectations into contracts
- Evaluating risks and public concerns about regional practices

GP's Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) Fiber Sourcing Certification

For our fresh fiber originating in the U.S., this certification confirms harvesting practices

- Protected water quality
- Respected biodiversity
- Avoided controversial sources
- Used trained harvesting professionals

Take a virtual walk through a working forest, experience responsible harvesting practices, and learn more about how GP is committed to sustainable forestry practices. 

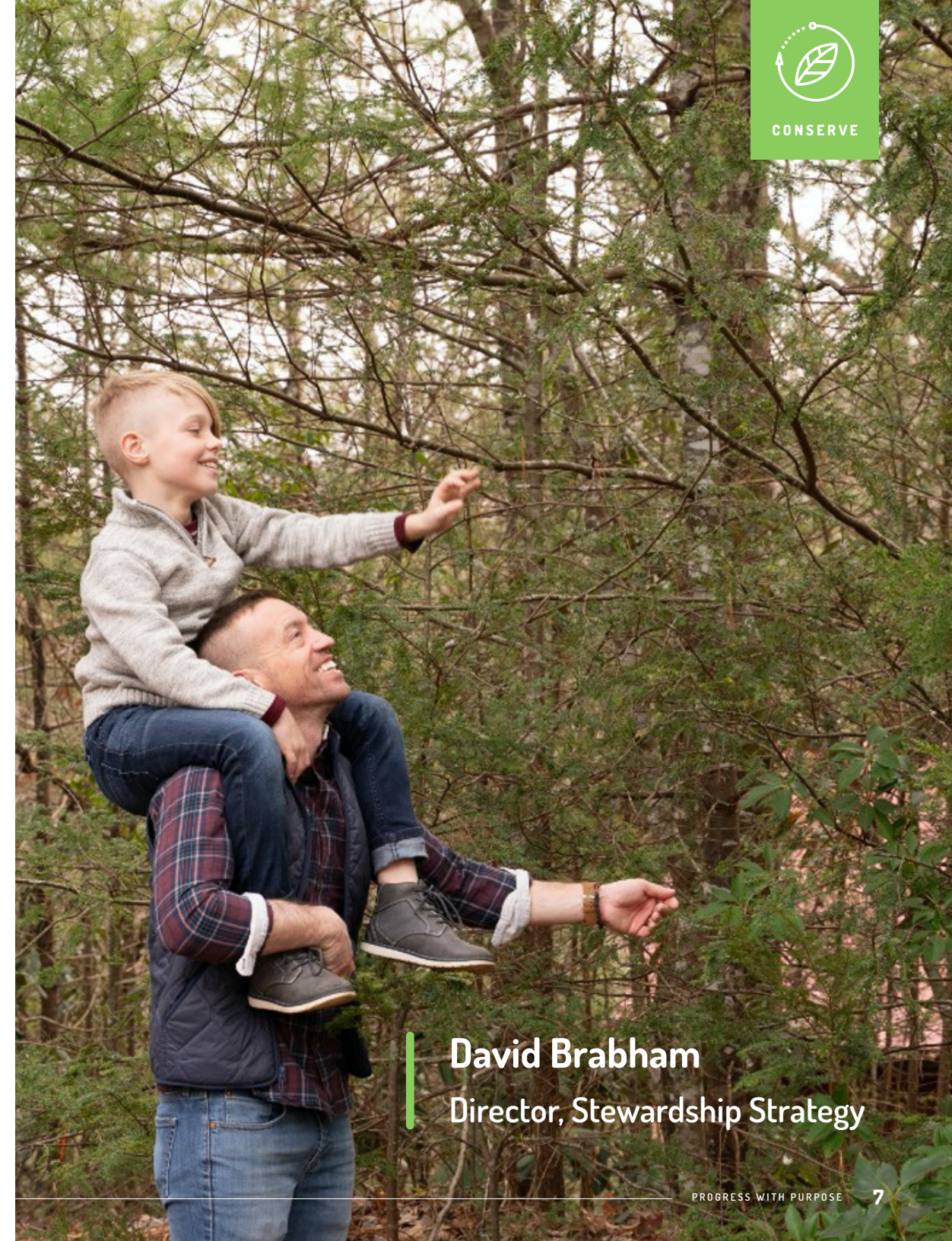
Chain of Custody Certification

GP holds chain of custody certifications from SFI®, Forest Stewardship Council®, and Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification® at many of our locations.


Controlled Wood Risk Assessment

GP sources fiber in a manner to avoid and/or mitigate the risk of:

- Harvesting in high conservation-value forests
- Conversion to plantations, or areas of non-forest use
- Illegal harvesting
- Violating traditional and civil rights, and
- Using genetically modified trees



David Brabham
Director, Stewardship Strategy



We believe in going beyond certification in our sourcing practices so that all people who rely on forests for income can participate in wood markets, but do so responsibly and in a manner that conserves of our world's resources.

Learn more about how Georgia-Pacific promotes biodiversity.

BOBBY MADDREY 

In regions where we purchase wood and fiber in the United States, we actively map endangered forests and special areas using scientific criteria and modeling that assesses high conservation values. GP doesn't buy wood from these high-conservation-value areas except in unique situations when active forest management is needed to improve habitat for endangered, rare, and/or vulnerable species. As part of this process, we have:


- Partnered with *Natureserve* to provide the latest scientific modeling and mapping behind up-to-date high-conservation-value areas in all of our U.S. fiber procurement basins.
- Engaged *Planet*, a satellite imagery platform, to provide monthly images of our endangered forest areas and developed a GIS algorithm to identify changes in areas over time for monitoring purposes.
- Developed a new online platform for suppliers to easily access the latest endangered forest maps.

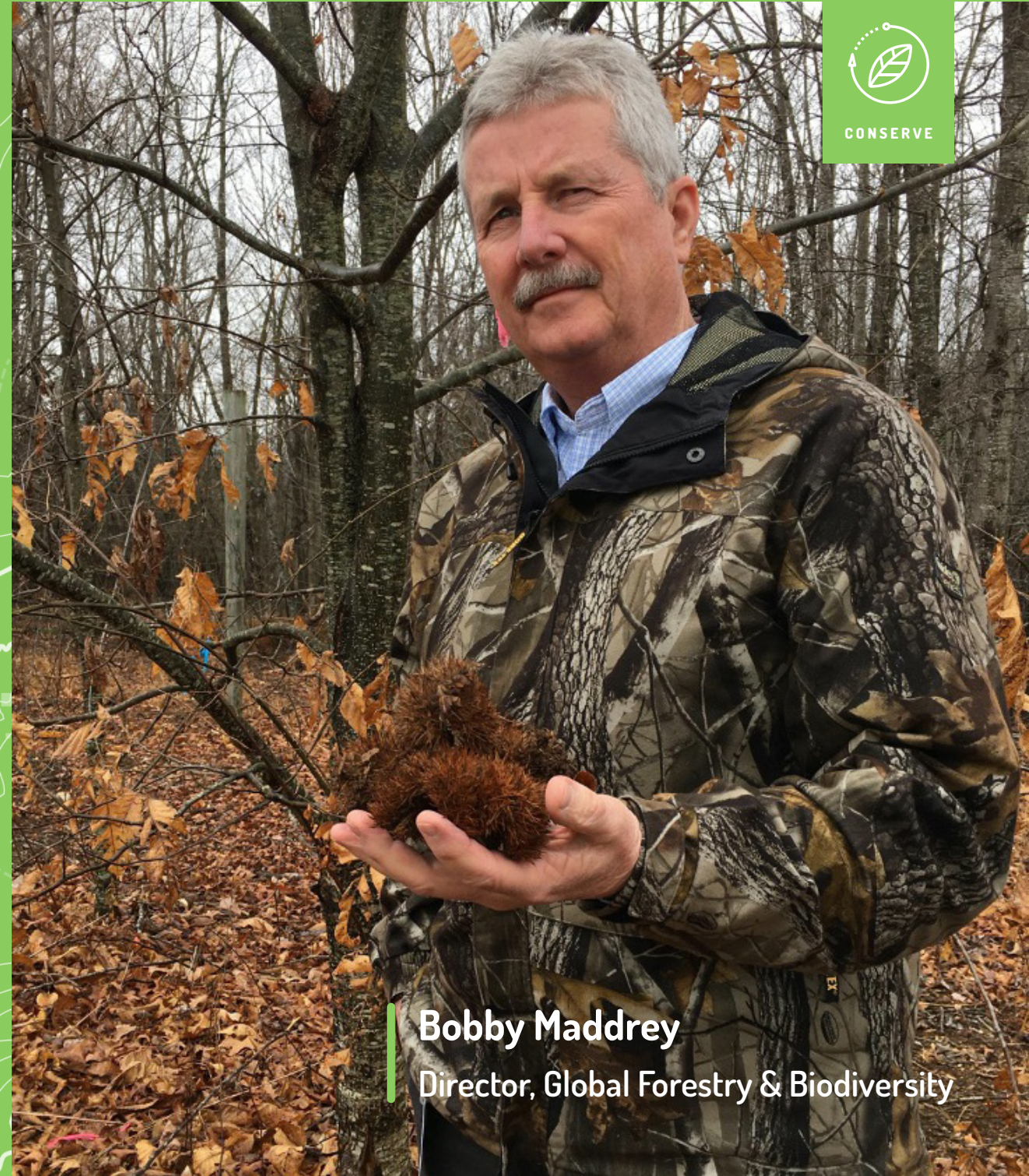
Georgia-Pacific works with others in the forestry and environmental community to support wildlife and forest enhancement projects in communities near GP operations.

Support wildlife conservation and biodiversity

Healthy, diverse, and sustainable forests provide critical habitat for wildlife. Our efforts include:

- Protecting endangered species, restoring forest ecosystems, and promoting wildlife diversity
- 3.4 million seedlings planted since 2018 through our direct investments in conservation projects, with an additional 400,000+ trees planted on the properties surrounding GP facilities.
- Committing to a 1:1 philosophy—for every one tree we use, at least one tree is regrown.

GP partners with many environmental and conservation groups to restore threatened ecosystems, recover forests ravaged by natural disasters, and to improve habitat for wildlife. In the last three years we have sponsored projects in 23 states. Our conservation project map allows you to explore each of our projects and see the impacts they are making. 



Bobby Maddrey
Director, Global Forestry & Biodiversity



CHALLENGE

NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCE USE

Challenging the status quo

How Georgia-Pacific innovates solutions for responsible resource usage

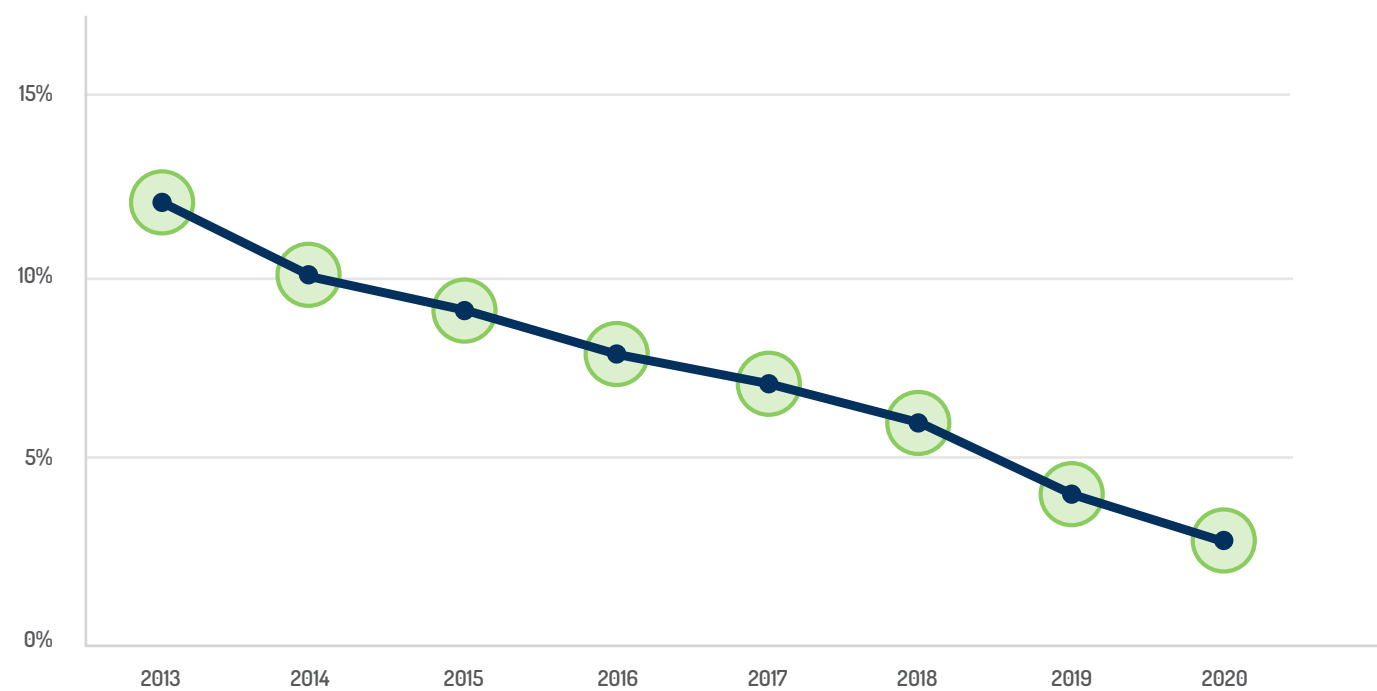
GP gives great attention to how non-renewables are consumed, and works diligently to push the boundaries of what's possible in terms of creative consumption. From energy use to bleaching technologies, we strive to responsibly produce the products our partners, consumers, and communities rely on.

Our usage of solid fossil fuels continues to decline.

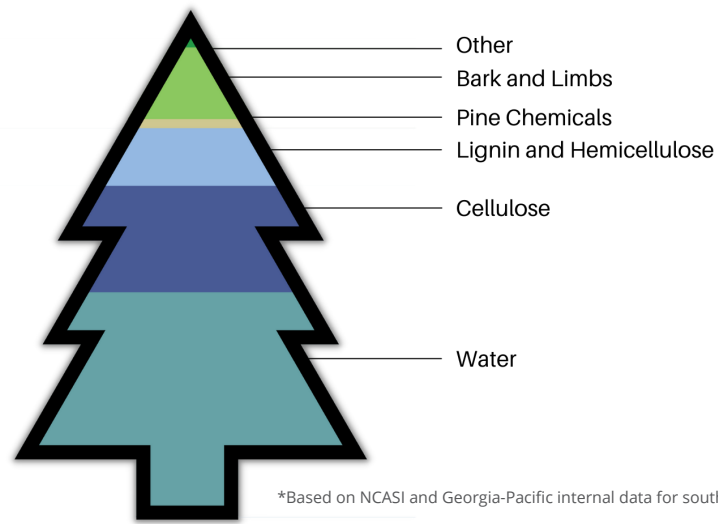
We're committed to using energy economically and efficiently. We've made significant changes to our operations that have resulted in a decrease in the amount of energy derived from solid fossil fuel by 73%. Shifting that energy need to natural gas or biomass has also resulted in a decrease in greenhouse gas emissions.

Percentage of GP's energy derived from solid fossil fuels

Percent



Since 2013, we have made capital investments that resulted in the closure of eight solid fossil fuel (coal and petroleum coke) power boilers and replaced this energy demand with either natural gas or biomass.



| We use every part of the tree

Cellulose is the main building block for the pulp and paper products we make at Georgia-Pacific. When creating this product, we aim to use every part of the tree to its best and highest purpose.

Water makes up almost half of every tree, which we capture and reprocess in evaporators and utilize in our mills. During harvesting, the majority of the limbs, branches, leaves, and needles remain in the forest to promote nutrient cycling. These materials and the bark from the harvested trees make up about 22% of the tree.

Other residuals from our processes include black liquor and other Pine Chemicals which make up approximately 20% and 1% of the tree, respectively. Black liquor is processed in a recovery boiler for bio energy and other cooking chemicals. Pine chemicals, like turpentine and crude tall oil, are also recovered and sold in the market. Sand and other inorganic materials make up less than 1% of the remaining tree.

And it doesn't stop there! Once the fibers are created, we continue using them. From corrugated boxes to tissues and paper towels, we use a mix of recycled fibers and fresh fibers to produce the products you know and love.

Learn more about how GP reduces our environmental impact.

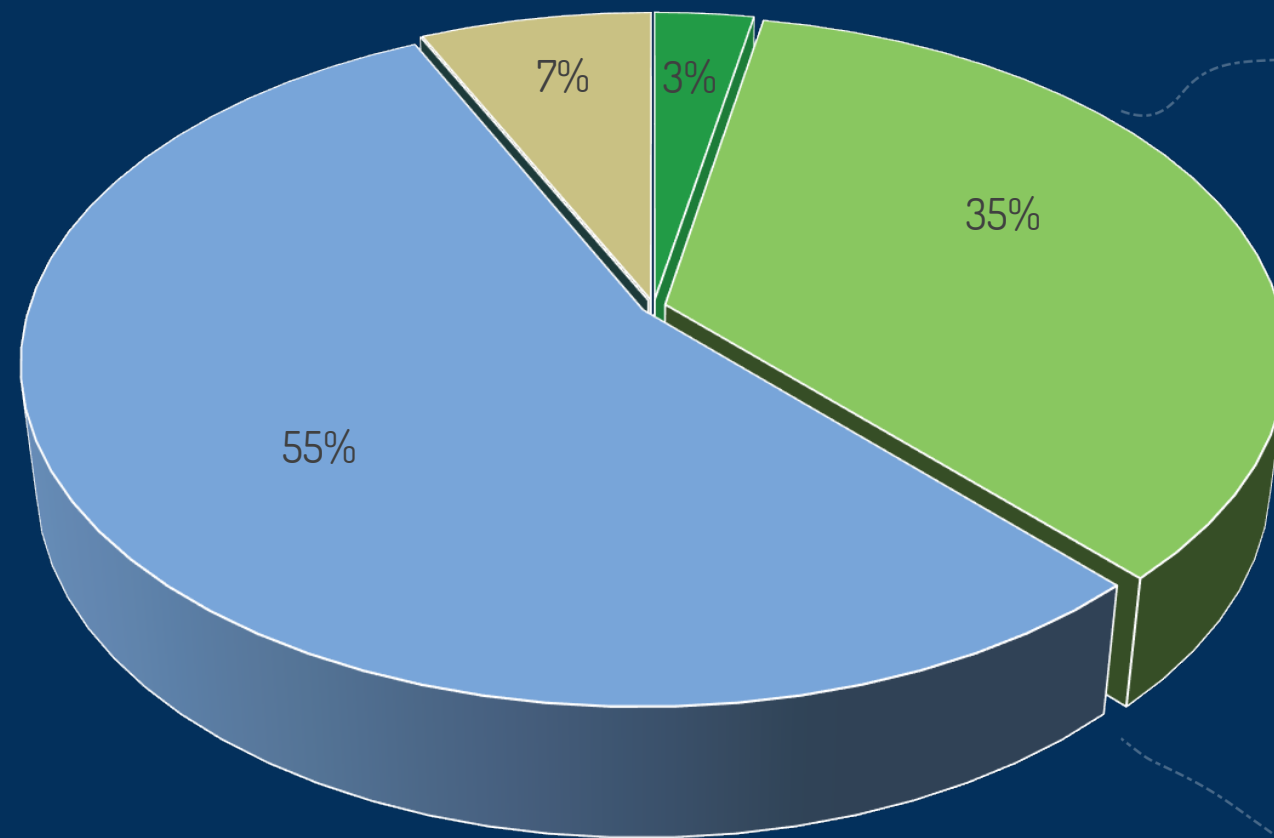
TODD WINGFIELD

| Georgia-Pacific's largest energy source is biomass

We're proud to say that GP's largest energy source is biomass—wood fiber, bark, and other organic materials. We have used these materials for many years to help power our wood and paper manufacturing facilities. It's just one of the innovative ways in which we serve as good stewards of our resources.

GP's 2020 fuel mix

PET COKE/COAL NATURAL GAS BIOMASS FUEL OIL PURCHASED ELECTRICITY



CHALLENGE



CONTROL

EMISSIONS

The reduction of emissions

How Georgia-Pacific keeps its output in check

Much like our approach to non-renewable resources, we apply transformative, technological solutions to our business and our clients' businesses to help control emissions of all kinds. Through creative problem solving, we can reduce our environmental impact, so the impact that's truly felt is one of value. We do this in several key areas: air, waste, greenhouse gas, and water.



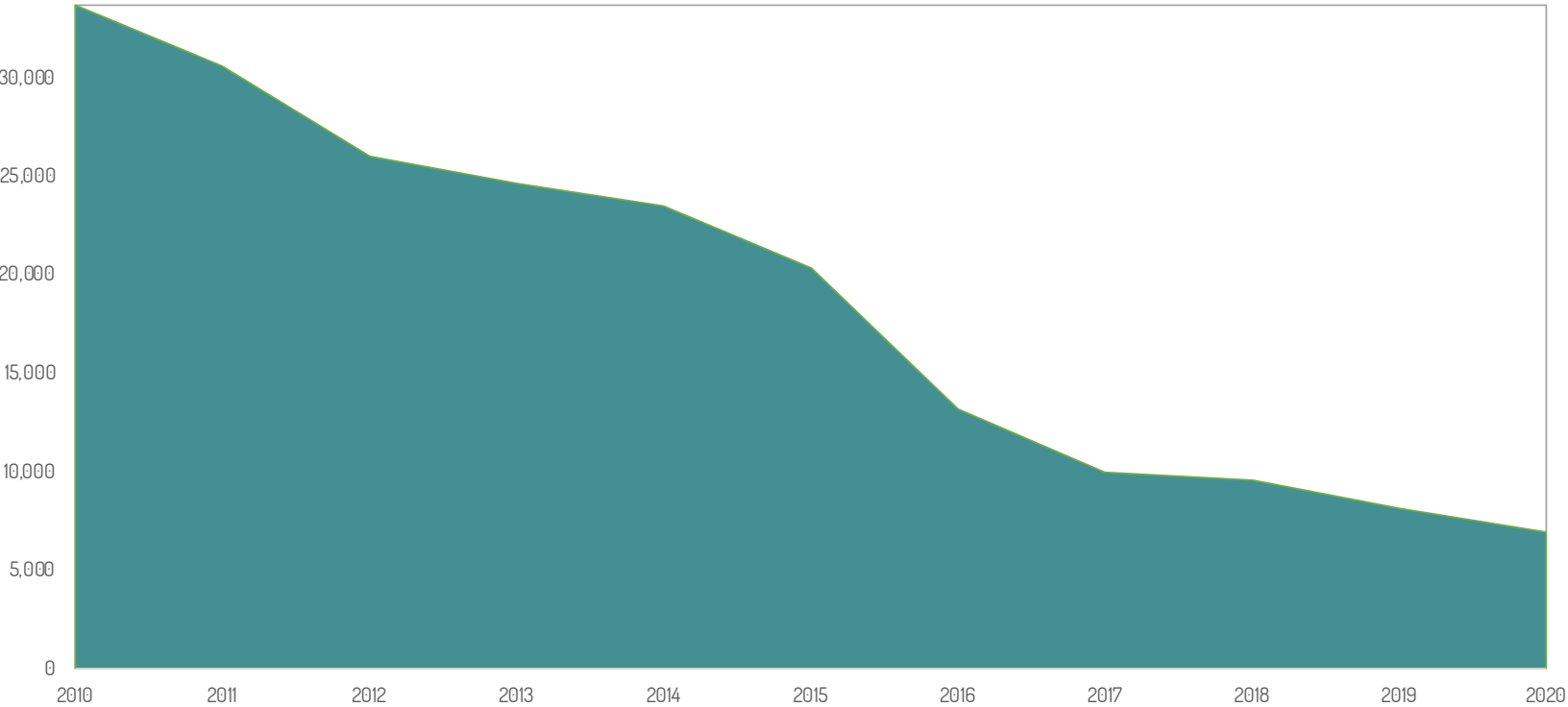
Nagapooja Seeba
Director, Environmental Stewardship

Air

At Georgia-Pacific’s Broadway Mill in Green Bay, Wisconsin, we invested in improvements that generated immediate reductions of SO2 emissions, which contribute to smog. By converting that facility’s coal-fired boilers to natural gas, the mill dramatically reduced its sulfur-dioxide emissions by 95%, yet boosted its energy efficiency. In fact, GP’s facilities have realized a 79% reduction in SO2 emissions since 2010 —that’s more than 26,000 tons— with even more reductions on the way.



Changes in SO2 emissions from pulp and paper mills

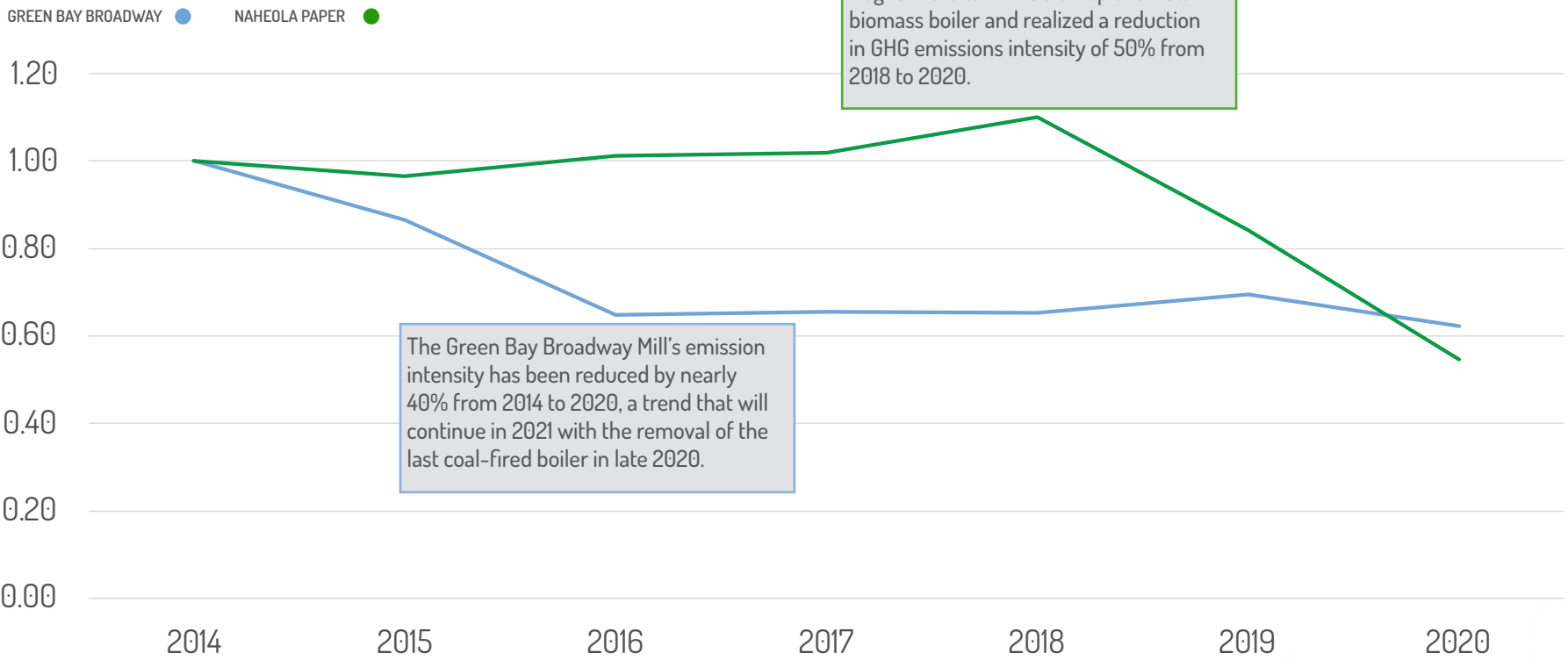


Greenhouse Gas

Georgia-Pacific has made significant investments, which have helped to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions of our operations. We work with our customers who have established carbon reduction goals for their supply chain and have participated in the CDP survey since 2014.

In 2019, approximately 55% of our energy needs were derived from renewable biomass sources, representing over 9% of the electricity generated from woody biomass in the entire United States.

GHG intensity trend for Green Bay Broadway and Naheola
(Indexed to 2014)



Water

While a significant amount of water flows through our mill systems, only about 12% of it is consumed during the pulp and papermaking process. Most is recycled, treated thoroughly to remove contaminants, and usually returned to the body of water it came from. GP treats its wastewater discharges in compliance with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency standards and state standards.



CONTRIBUTE

SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS



What we make, makes a difference

How Georgia-Pacific products contribute to
the greater good

By creating highly valued products while minimizing our global
impact, we offer our consumers and partners choices they can
feel good about.



CONTRIBUTE

Delivering Societal Benefits

Koch's philosophy of mutual benefit helps generate breakthrough innovations that dramatically improve lives. At the very least, it means we constantly strive to deliver better products while consuming fewer resources.



Shelter

Forest products are essential to the creation of homes, apartments, workplaces, and places of worship.



Hygiene

Our Consumer Products business provides essential hygiene products, including bath tissue, paper towels, and paper cups, while our Cellulose business provides ingredients used for feminine hygiene, baby care, and adult incontinence products.



Convenience

Paper packaging helps with the quick transfer of goods, allowing consumers and the foodservice industry to access what they need, when they need it.



Product Protection

Whether it's facilitating the transport of goods from manufacturers to store shelves, or enabling the growth of e-commerce, paper-based packaging helps drive our economy.

Offering Stewardship with Our Brands

In 2018, our Consumer Products business launched Aria®, a sustainably positioned premium bath tissue brand, to capture the environmentally conscious market and younger shoppers. The tissue's environmental attributes deliver quality and comfort, and due to the overwhelming response to this product, we have expanded this positioning into our Quilted Northern brand.

The manufacturing process utilizes a proprietary technology, through which we're able to efficiently use water and energy by recycling the water and mechanically removing a portion of it before drying. For the energy that is consumed, we use 100% renewable power through the use of biomass fuel and renewable energy credits. According to a recent Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) conducted by Georgia-Pacific in 2017, our proprietary tissue technology is less energy intensive on a per usage occasion basis when compared to through-air-dried technology.

The environmental impact indicators, as defined by the ISO Product Category Rule, include:

- **21% LESS PRIMARY ENERGY DEMAND**
- **12% LOWER GLOBAL WARMING POTENTIAL**
- **14% LESS OZONE DEPLETION**

Participating in the Circular Economy

The circular economy aims to redefine growth, focusing on positive, society-wide benefits. It entails gradually decoupling economic activity from the consumption of finite resources, and designing waste out of the system. Georgia-Pacific wants to keep products in their highest state in use as much as possible.

Circular Economy Success: Corrugated Containers

The corrugated container market is a great example of circularity success. The paper used to make these boxes originally came from trees, and boxes contain a high percentage of recycled content. At the same time, it has the highest recovery rate for the recycling of any commodity. According to the American Forest & Paper Association, the tons of corrugated containers recovered for recycling amounted to more than 92% of the total production of the industry over the past three years.

Recycling the Right Way

Our businesses continue to make investments that increase our ability to economically use recovered paper:

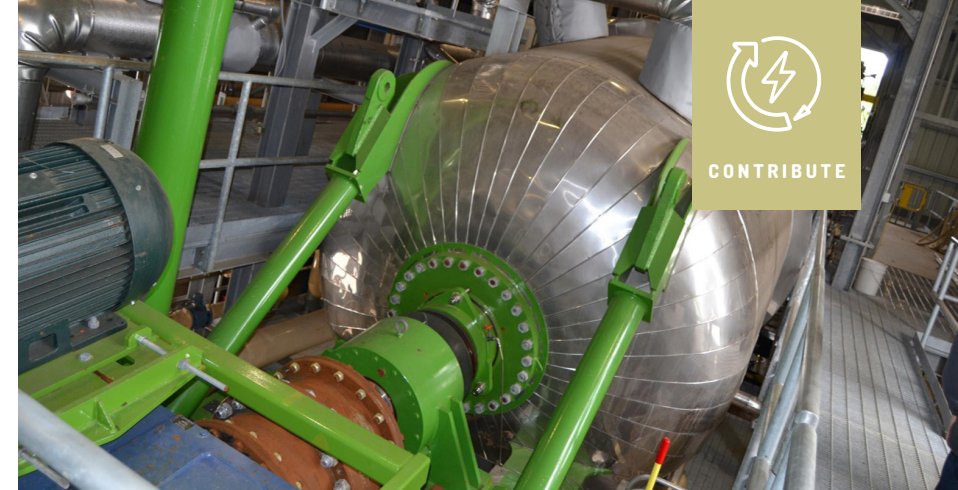
- We've increased our capability to process mixed paper in our Consumer Products business by more than 50%.
- GP Recycling, a GP company, is one of the world's largest buyers and sellers of recycled fiber and supplies GP facilities as well as sells to other recycled fiber users.

A New-To-World Waste Recycling Solution

More than 10 years ago, Georgia-Pacific found that 25 million tons of paper end up in U.S. landfills annually and started looking for a way to capture some of that fiber for reuse.

Juno® Technology is able to take in commercial waste, and through a proprietary process, can sanitize the material, turn the food into biogas, and recover paper, plastics, and metals. Juno only takes contaminated waste that is destined for landfills or incinerators. Based on work so far, we expect about 90% of what is processed can be diverted from landfills.

The first commercial scale processing unit started up in Toledo, Oregon, in May 2021 and is expected to process 100,000 tons of waste annually. Conversations are underway for licensing other units in the U.S. and globally.





CONNECT

BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS



Our work goes beyond business

How Georgia-Pacific is helping to break down barriers

We believe in people and seek a system of equal rights and mutual benefit, where individuals succeed by helping others succeed. That's why we have deep, long-standing relationships with numerous organizations and communities to attack barriers that hold people back.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

At Georgia-Pacific, our commitment to social responsibility allows us to contribute to philanthropic, activism, and charitable goals by engaging in and supporting volunteering and responsible as well as ethical practices.

We aim to create the best possible environment where all people have the opportunity to develop their talents and abilities. We strive to treat every person with dignity and respect, encourage and foster networking, and sponsor activities that are inclusive and focus on shared interests. We celebrate the uniqueness of each individual and believe this diversity enables us to work together to identify opportunities, solve problems, and create greater value for others.

Public Spaces


Providing equitable access to public spaces is linked with helping people participate in shared experiences and decision-making, and public activities that build trust and community. From ballfields and butterfly sanctuaries to parks and playgrounds, we provide access to areas across the U.S. where communities can gather together.

GP Donation to Mattie Freeland Park

Completed in summer 2021 and funded in part by GP and Park Pride, this previously abandoned lot near downtown Atlanta has been revitalized into an official park with multi-use playing field, picnic and grilling area, and community-led art installations to serve the needs of the community.

Education

Every child in America should have equal opportunity and access to a quality education. GP is helping to narrow the opportunity gap in America’s underserved communities, focusing on STEM programs, technical/trade programs, and helping teachers get the resources they need.

That’s why we partner with Kids in Need to help nearly 205,000 teachers and more than 5 million students in some of the most under-resourced communities across the country each year. 





CONNECT



BREAKING BARRIERS

We provide employee engagement opportunities that enable them to build relationships, have meaningful and fulfilling experiences, and make a positive difference in their communities based on what is important to them. Stewardship encompasses the responsible management of our actions and the resources entrusted to our care in a manner that respects the rights of others. By “rights,” we mean everyone’s right to their own life and property, and equal treatment under the law.


**>\$2.7M
CONTRIBUTED**

USED TO PURCHASE COATS, BOOTS,
SAFETY GEAR, EQUIPMENT

AWARDED TO FIRE DEPARTMENTS
WITHIN 30 MILES OF GP FACILITY


First Responders and Disaster Relief


Underserved communities suffer broadly from natural disasters due to location of housing and scarce government support when disaster strikes. Georgia-Pacific works to overcome this barrier by partnering with first responders.

GP partners with Convoy of Hope, an international humanitarian organization, to supply products such as bath tissue, paper towels, and tableware in places affected by natural disasters.

In 2006, GP launched its Bucket Brigade program to help support local fire departments and the brave men and women who strive to keep our communities safe.

Housing

The wealth gap between white and black households in the U.S. is largely due to the disparity in rates of home ownership. GP provides funds and products that support individuals and their families toward their goal of housing security. 

GP teams up with Atlanta Habitat for Humanity to construct homes and provide resources for qualified, hardworking families. Employee volunteers dedicate their time to several build days and the house dedication once the project is complete. 



CONNECT



Equal Rights

We embrace equal rights as values critical to the success of our business as well as communities. We're breaking down barriers in racial justice, criminal justice reform, and small business licensing reform.

At Georgia-Pacific, we have a long history of supporting the civil rights movement, especially in Atlanta where we are headquartered. Among others, we continue to work closely with The King Center, The Center for Civil and Human Rights, The National Council of Negro Women, and 100 Black Men of America. We support their focus on STEM, financial literacy, economic stability, entrepreneurship, youth leadership mentoring programs, and social justice initiatives. [▶](#)

During the last few years all employees have been invited to participate in our "Starting the Conversation" series, where we discuss important topics like unconscious bias, criminal justice reform, mental health, social injustice, the opioid crisis, LGBTQ+ community, and women's history. Based on these conversations, employees across the company have participated in unconscious bias and human trafficking training and learning sessions. [▶](#)

Health

GP works with organizations that reduce disparities to health equity.

GP is committed to raising awareness and participating in fundraising opportunities to support Susan G. Komen and breast cancer research. GP sponsors Komen Race for the Cure events in communities near GP facilities. Our employees have helped raise more than \$6 million since 2006. [▶](#)

“

Georgia-Pacific comes together as one company: a wide-ranging and evolving community of people working together. Diversity in experience, thought, and perspective makes GP a more innovative place. Ensuring everyone brings their uniqueness to the company is critical to our success. Many different people, but we are one GP.

Julie Brehm, VP of Human Resources

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“

Georgia-Pacific products are part of everyday life. And while they fill a diverse range of home, commercial, and industrial needs, they have one thing in common: They're all made to high standards of quality and safety. **Our 30,000 employees around the world are always looking for better ways of doing things.**

Dawn Wurst, SVP, Health & Safety

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AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

We appreciate the recognition we've received from local and federal government agencies, non-governmental organizations and customers, and are especially proud of the Georgia-Pacific employees who helped make these awards possible.



Forest Stewardship Council Leadership Award

GP received the 2020 FSC Leadership Award, which recognizes uncommon excellence that advances responsible forest management and forest conservation. GP has long been dedicated to forest stewardship, including our efforts in restoring vulnerable habitats, protecting endangered forest, supporting family forest owners, and helping to ensure there are healthy working forests for the future.



LRC Energy Star

The Leaf River cellulose mill in New Augusta, Mississippi, became the first U.S. pulp mill to earn the EPA's ENERGY STAR® certification, signifying the manufacturing facility performed in the top 25 percent of similar facilities nationwide for energy efficiency this year.



EPA SmartWay

For a second year in a row, GP and KBX Logistics were awarded the EPA SmartWay Excellence Award for their innovations in streamlined shipping efficiency. The two companies continue to collaborate on improving practices in intermodal shipping, load capacity, and backhauls.



Georgia-Pacific was recognized by the American Forest & Paper Association with Sustainability Award winners:

Energy Efficiency - for Quilted Northern Ultra Soft & Strong®, which saves 30 percent more water and uses 30 percent less energy by using efficient manufacturing technology to squeeze more water from tissue paper before drying.

Innovation - Partnering with a major online retailer, GP developed a paper-based mailer that is 100 percent curbside recyclable. The company also introduced Dixie® ecosmart® 100% Recycled Fiber Hot Cups – America's first hot cup made from 100 percent post-consumer recycled fiber. GP is also working to increase paper cup recycling by investing in recycling infrastructure and working with municipalities to increase acceptance of paper cups to curbside recycling programs.

CERTIFICATIONS

Many Georgia-Pacific products and facilities are recognized and/or certified by these third-party groups:



FSC® Chain of Custody



SFI® Certified Sourcing



SFI® Chain of Custody



PEFC™ Chain of Custody



LEED



ECOLOGO®



Green Seal



BPI Compostable



USDA BioPreferred® Program



Wildlife Habitat Council



UL Responsible Sourcing



GreenGuard®



Certified Recycled Content
SCS Global Services



International Sustainability
and Carbon Certification

CLOSING THOUGHTS

Responsibility is our highest priority

A message from Christian Fischer, CEO

Every day, we work to create more value, using fewer resources than the day before. We do it by managing our resources in a way that benefits our customers, employees, partners, community members, and society with a philosophy of mutual benefit. With more than 180 locations, we're one of America's largest manufacturers. To stay in business for the long term, we must constantly improve and innovate—both in the products we make and how we make them. We look forward to what the future holds.



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