

Where does our paper come from?

Paper use is one of the greatest drivers behind deforestation worldwide. Every year, over 15 million hectares of the Earth's forests are destroyed. In Australia, since European settlement, over 90% of our old growth forests have been cleared or logged. Today, woodchipping for paper production continues to drive the destruction of native forests in Australia, with over three quarters of all trees logged being woodchipped. Woodchipping destroys old growth forests and degrades water catchments, polluting our rivers and reducing water supplies.

Logging in native forests has global impacts. It adds to climate change, reduces biodiversity and threatens the survival of our native flora and fauna.

The problems are big, but some of the solutions are simple. This brochure helps you to make informed choices about the paper you use in your office and home, and reduce the impact on the world around you.

How can I help?

✓ Reduce paper use – Save the environment by using less paper in the first place.

- Only print when absolutely necessary
- Use double sided printing (often known as duplex)
- Replace paper faxes with electronic fax software or email, and store documents electronically
- Rationalise reports and printed documentation. Could they be posted online or on your organisation's intranet, avoiding the need to print altogether?

Using less paper not only saves forests, it saves water and electricity, reduces landfill, reduces greenhouse pollution and saves you money.

✗ Avoid buying paper that destroys forests and contributes to climate change

Woodchips from Australia's native forests are exported to make paper overseas. Domestically, native forests are logged for paper, cardboard and packaging, destroying the habitat of endangered species such as the Leadbeaters Possum, the Tasmanian Wedge-tailed Eagle and the Western Ringtail Possum. When these forests are logged, vast amounts of carbon are released into the atmosphere, contributing to climate change.

In many countries, irresponsible and illegal logging is widespread and makes it impossible to determine where the paper fibre comes from. Many imported papers come from areas where tropical rainforest logging has caused human rights abuses and devastating forest fires.

✓ Buy 100% recycled post-consumer waste paper

Second to reducing overall paper use, buying 100% recycled post-consumer waste paper is the best way to minimise the impacts of your paper consumption. Compared with non-recycled paper, one tonne of this paper saves:

- 60% water use
- 75% bleach use
- 27 kilograms of air pollutants
- 2.5 barrels of oil
- 2.5 tonnes of greenhouse gases
- 4 cubic metres of landfill

And of course, you are not contributing to the destruction of our forests, nor to the enormous amount of carbon released into the atmosphere from logging.

Help protect our forests. Buy these papers ...

These papers are the best currently available in Australia:



- ✓ **Evolve** – Business and Office, A4 and A3
- ✓ **Vision** – Pure White 100% A4 and A3, + 10 colours
- ✓ **Fuji Xerox Recycled Supreme**, A4 and A3 + 5 pastel colours
- ✓ **OfficeWorks** – 100% recycled A4

Although these papers are made overseas, the carbon footprint of transportation to Australia is less than that of logging forests. Unfortunately, no Australian company currently produces a 100% recycled paper that is not linked via branding to papers that come from Australia's carbon rich forests.

There are other brandings available but none are as good as the papers we recommend here. A rundown of the other brandings is included overleaf.

Stockists – where to buy the papers above

Please be careful when reading labels, as these companies supply other papers that look similar but are very different. We do not advocate the use of other papers sold by them.

SCRAP	(02) 9825 1062	www.scrapltd.com.au (Discount available)
Ecocern	(02) 9337 2737	www.ecocern.com
Going Solar	(03) 9348 1000	www.goingsolar.com.au
Friends of the Earth	(03) 9419 8700	
Fuji Xerox	13 14 11	www.xeroxsupplies.com.au
Officeworks	1300 OFFICE	www.officeworks.com.au
Office Choice Aust	1300 360 213	www.officechoice.com.au
Corporate Express	13 26 44	www.ce.com.au
CPI	(03) 9239 3600	www.cpigroup.com.au
Office Products Depot		www.officeproductsdepot.com.au
Angleton's OPD	03 9419 5855	
Industrial Stationers	03 9614 2751	
Paperlinx (for Evolve only)	1800 72 97 77	NOTE: No other papers are recommended from this company – only purchase Evolve

These papers are also available through other outlets. Please contact us for details.

Other paper brandings

We do NOT endorse any of the following brandings, and emphasise the need to look at the details on the label:

Any brand with FSC 100% recycled logo Responsible Forest Management FSC-SECR-0151

FSC Mixed Sources (label with recycled logo) – A mix of recycled and 100% FSC product. Commitment to protect high conservation value forests

FSC 100% – Commitment to protect high conservation value forests, but no recycled product is included

Avoid the following brandings:

FSC Mixed Sources which include Controlled Wood – Fibre sourced from highly contentious areas

PEFC (including AFS) – Poor governance, includes wood from badly managed forests, linked to world's worst forestry practices here in Australia

ISO 14001 – No guarantees regarding any environmental outcomes

No logo/branding at all – Includes wood from illegally logged tropical forests, linked to worse displacement of indigenous communities, potential extinction of wildlife under threat from logging.

BETTER

WORSE

The future of paper

It is stated that we can only recycle paper a limited number of times. This is very true, but since there is so much virgin fibre paper on the market, we are a long way from having only recycled fibres from which to make paper. Office paper recycling has plenty of room to grow, and this will create more jobs and reduce waste. Our goal is to have only recycled papers on the market with truly ecologically sustainable new fibres being added to make up the remaining content.

By buying recycled paper you are increasing the demand and driving the changes required to truly reduce our impacts on our forests and forest ecosystems.

The issues in this brochure are the same for other printing papers. Please buy post-consumer recycled paper for all your printing needs, not just for copy paper.

For more information

We would be happy to give you or your organisation a presentation related to paper and its impacts on climate biodiversity and the environment. For more information, please contact us.

The Wilderness Society

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Printed on 100% post-consumer waste recycled paper

A guide to environmental copy paper

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Selecting the best office papers and reducing impacts on forests and climate.

