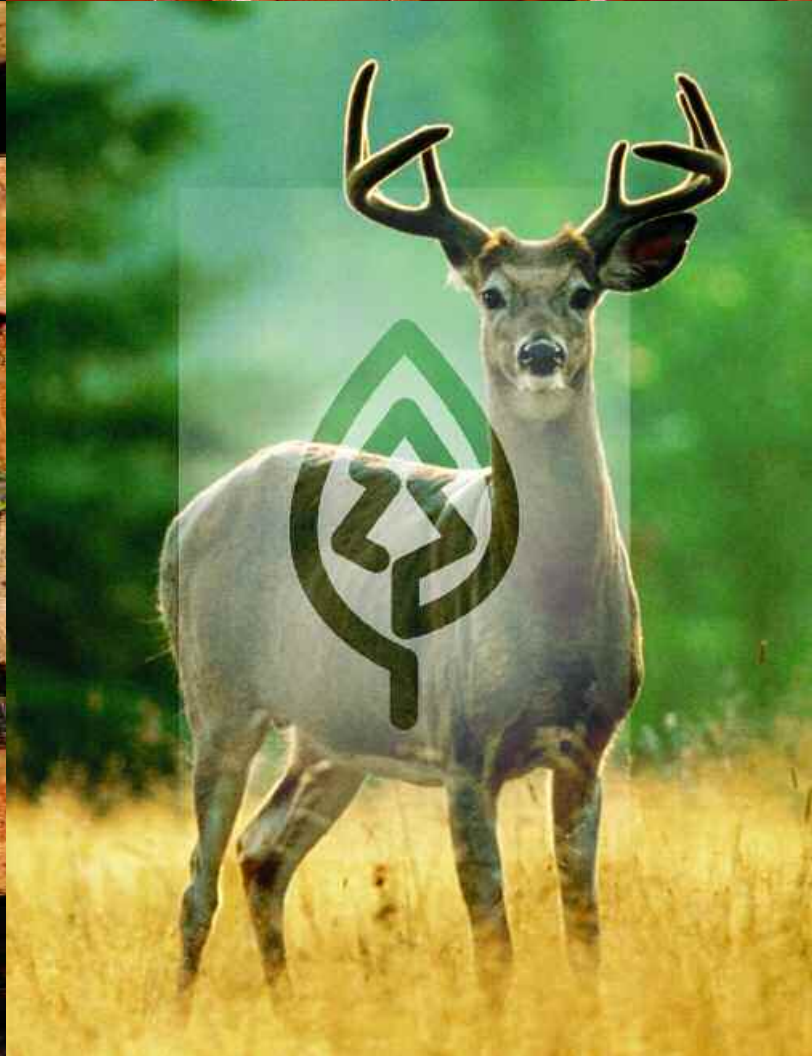
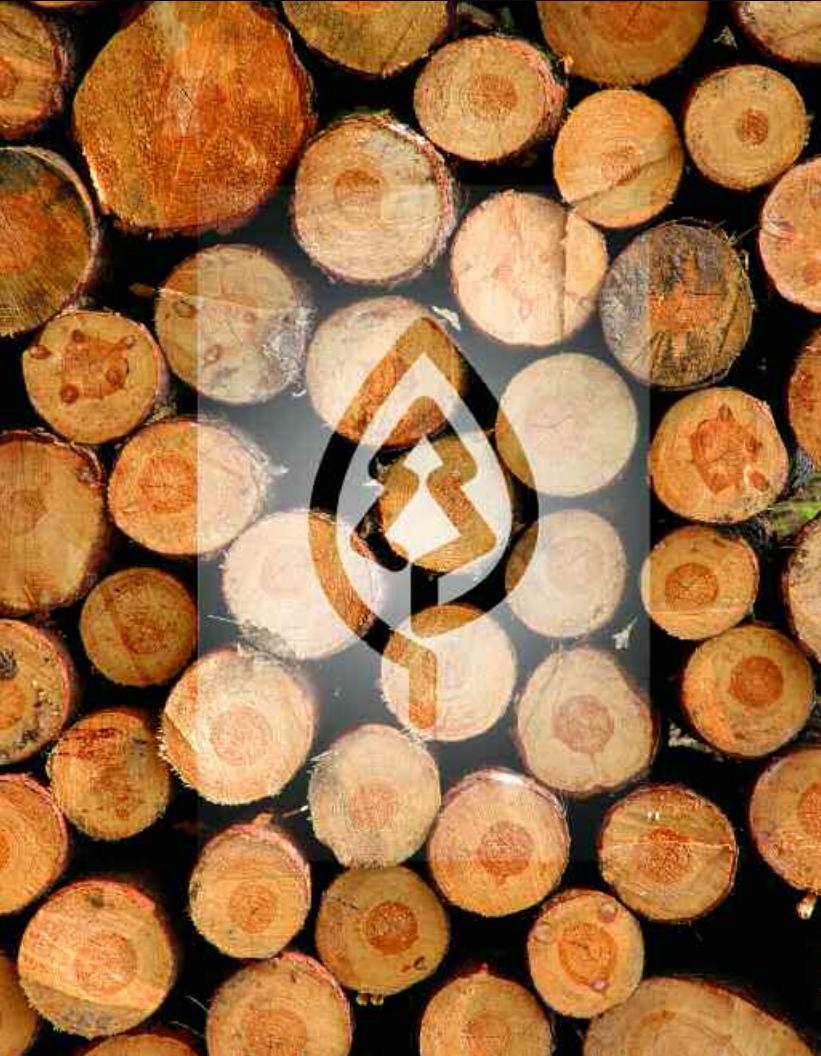


# A Mark of Good Forestry in Georgia





You won't necessarily see the SFI logo stamped on Georgia forests or forest products, but the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) has been making a positive difference in Georgia forests and across the forestry community since 1995.

SFI works behind the scenes supporting responsible forestry, wood procurement and harvesting in Georgia. Collectively, SFI has trained thousands of loggers and foresters, provided forestry information and support to private landowners while SFI program participants manage their forests or wood procurement practices to comply with the SFI Standard.



# From Grassroots to Global Reach

In Georgia, the SFI program makes a difference at the grassroots level—working with SFI program participants, landowners, loggers, forestry contractors and companies that purchase wood. The SFI Implementation Committee in Georgia works across the forestry community to support programs that improve the practice of sustainable forestry on all lands.



- SFI promotes Best Management Practices for Forestry that protect water quality, working with the Georgia Forestry Commission and other state agencies.
- SFI funds and helps staff the Master Timber Harvester program in cooperation with the University of Georgia—training more than 3,000 loggers and foresters since 1995.
- SFI works with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and the American Forest Foundation to highlight critical wildlife habitat needs and issues in Georgia.

- SFI acknowledges the importance of family forest owners and provides many of these Georgia landowners with information about sustainable forestry and resources available to help them manage their forests sustainably.
- SFI provides support for environmental educational efforts in Georgia, when it furthers the goals of the program.

These are just a few of the ways that the state SFI Committee is furthering the practice of sustainable forestry in Georgia.

Across North America ... and globally, the SFI program has evolved into a global forest certification system, centered around the SFI Standard—a rigorous set of principles, objectives and performance measures, designed to meet consumer demand for sustainably grown forest products.

The benefits of the SFI Standard are demonstrated every day in Georgia as SFI program participants that own land implement the principles spelled out in the SFI Standard on their lands. Conversely, manufacturing companies that are certified to the SFI Standard must document that their procurement practices comply with the program principles and objectives.

*(See the Principles of SFI.)*

# SFI: Good for All of Georgia

If your life and livelihood is dependent—directly or indirectly—on the forest, then you can easily appreciate the value of a program like SFI that fosters responsible, sustainable forestry practices among all landowners and among companies that manufacture paper and wood products.

But, all of Georgia citizens benefit, too. Sustainably managed, healthy forests provide economic, environmental and social benefits indispensable to our quality of life in Georgia. They ensure the health and viability of Georgia's \$24 billion forest products industry, an important part of maintaining a strong state economy.



Sustainably managed forests provide many environmental benefits, from air and water quality to wildlife habitat and green space.

Beyond jobs for thousands of people and a tax base that supports Georgia communities, sustainably managed forests provide other important benefits to society like essential building and paper products, and all types of recreational opportunities.

# The Principles of SFI

The SFI program is based on nine principles and 13 supporting objectives. Principle No. 1 is the defining element of the SFI program and Standard:

**1. Sustainable Forestry** - To practice sustainable forestry to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs; practicing a land stewardship ethic that integrates reforestation and the growing and harvesting of trees for useful products with the conservation of soil, air and water quality, biological diversity, wildlife and aquatic habitat, recreation and aesthetics.

The other eight principles flow from that statement:

**2. Responsible Practices** – To use and promote sustainable forestry practices that are both scientifically credible and economically, environmentally and socially responsible.



**3. Reforestation and Productivity** – To provide for regeneration after harvest and maintain the productive capacity of forestlands.

**4. Forest Health and Productivity** – To protect forests from wildfire, pests, diseases and other damaging agents.

**5. Long-Term Forest and Soil Productivity** – To protect and maintain long-term forest and soil productivity.

**6. Protection of Water Resources** – To protect water bodies and riparian zones.

## 7. Protection of Special Sites and Biological Diversity

To manage forests and lands of biological, geological, historical or cultural significance in a manner that protects their unique qualities; and to promote a diversity of wildlife habitats, forest types, and ecological or natural community types.



**8. Legal Compliance** – To comply with applicable federal, state, and local forestry and related environmental laws, statutes and regulations.

**9. Continual Improvement** – To continually improve the practice of forest management and also to monitor, measure and report performance in achieving the commitment to sustainable forestry.

**SFI program participants are required to have written and well-documented plans that demonstrate how they are supporting those principles that are relevant to their business.**

## How Can We Improve?

Continual improvement is an important part of SFI and although we try to monitor all of our practices, we know there's always room for improvement. That's where you can help: We want to hear from you if you see site-specific practices that seem to be inconsistent with SFI program principles, particularly as it relates to reforestation and protection of soil and water quality. We pay close attention to stream crossings, forest road construction, buffer zones along streams and rivers—even cleanup of trash or debris during harvesting.

**If you have a specific concern, call the SFI Hotline: 706-542-2430.**

We'll follow-up and try to address your concern.

## Who's Behind SFI?

The SFI program is governed by an independent non-profit entity known as Sustainable Forestry Initiative, Inc. A 15-member board—which includes equal representation from the environmental community, forest industry and the broader forestry community (government, academia, etc.)—governs SFI, Inc. This group and the stakeholders they represent are responsible for ensuring the strength and credibility of the SFI Standard, and for ensuring that the SFI program is protecting the economic, environmental and social needs of our forests and communities.



## SFI Program Participants in Georgia

Augusta Woodlands Corp.  
Bowater Incorporated  
Canal Wood, LLC  
Claude Howard Lumber Company  
Forest Investment Associates  
Georgia-Pacific LLC  
Gilman Building Products  
Global Forest Partners LP  
Graphic Packaging International Inc.  
Hancock Forest Management, Inc.  
Ida Cason Callaway Foundation  
International Paper Company  
Interstate Resources, Inc. & Newport Timber LLC  
Huber Engineered Woods LLC  
Jordan Forest Products  
LP (North America)  
MeadWestvaco Corporation  
Norbord Georgia, Inc.  
Packaging Corporation of America  
Plum Creek Timber Company, Inc.  
Pollard Lumber Co., Inc.  
Rayonier  
Smurfit-Stone Container Corporation  
Southern Veneer Products  
T & S Hardwoods, Inc.  
Temple-Inland  
Weyerhaeuser Company

## SFI Supporting Organizations

Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
Georgia Forestry Association  
Georgia Forestry Commission  
Southeastern Wood Producers Association  
UGA Warnell School of Forestry  
and Natural Resources



For more information on SFI:

[www.sfi-georgia.org](http://www.sfi-georgia.org)

706-542-7691

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