



Victorian
Forest
Products
Association

VFPA Media Kit

Backgrounder

2023



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We grow
jobs. trees. futures.
materials. careers.
industries. communities.



About us

The Victorian Forest Products Association (VFPA) is the peak industry body representing the forestry products value chain in Victoria. This includes:

- growers (companies growing, managing and harvesting our sustainable plantations and multiple-use natural forests),
- primary and secondary timber processors such as sawmills,
- and pulp, paper and bioproduct manufacturers.

Wood and its uses

We plant, harvest, and utilise **a mix of hardwood (eucalypt) and softwood (pine)** supplied from multiple-use public forests and private plantations.

We use softwood predominantly for construction. This includes timber frames and trusses, poles and fence posts.

We use native hardwood for products where appearance and durability are important: flooring, decks, window- and door frames and many more.

Trees are manufactured into a wide range of timber products such as sawn timber products, engineered wood products, pulp and paper manufacture, and high-quality wood chips.

Wood is beautiful and functional, renewable, biodegradable, and recyclable. We use wood for new homes, buildings, furniture, paper, toiletry and sanitary products, and fuel for green energy. With over 5000 known uses for wood, it is hard to imagine life without it.

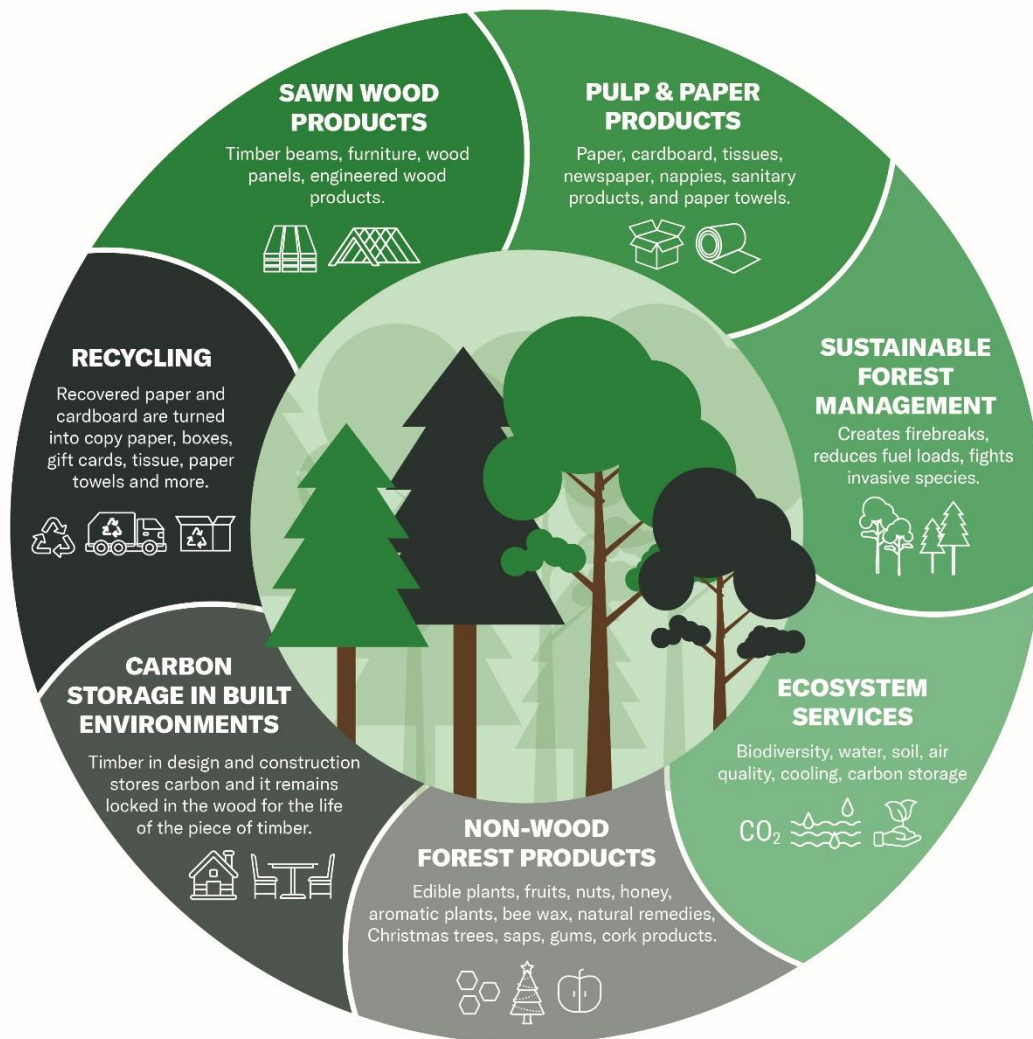


Figure 1: Forest products

Regulation and Certification

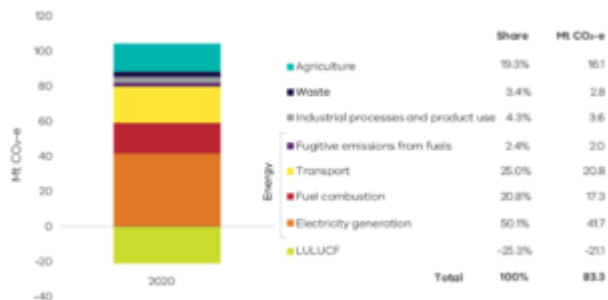
The Victorian forestry sector is highly regulated. It implements sustainable forest management practices across private and public land tenures and participates in ecological restoration for the benefit of Victorians. 0.04 per cent of Victoria's native forests are harvested annually and all harvested areas are re-established. Each year, approximately five per cent of plantation trees are harvested, while we plant 15 million new trees each year.

All our growers are internationally certified by [PECF/Responsible Wood](#), the [Forest Stewardship Council \(FSC\)](#), or both.

Our role in fighting climate change

Forestry in Victoria has a significant role to play in the move to a net-zero carbon future. Research (Ximenes, et al., 2012) demonstrates that plantation trees capture three times more carbon than environmental plantings over 100 years. Trees sequester carbon, and timber products store this carbon for the life (and in many cases, the end life) of those products.

According to Victoria's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Accounts, emissions from land use, land-use change, and forestry (which includes native harvesting) were -21.1Mt CO₂-e in 2020. Forestry is the only sector across the economy that is and continues to be a net carbon sink.



Source: *Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning Victoria (DELWP)*

Forestry and the economy

22 per cent of Australia's plantation estate is in Victoria. We produce 24 per cent of the nation's logs, more than any other state. Our products support up to 115,000 Victorian businesses and up to 50,000 jobs across the supply chain, from carpenters and furniture makers to those producing the paper we use every day.



Community

Forestry is a significant contributor to local jobs, economies, and communities. Each grower has their own fire brigade, protecting not just the plantation assets but regional communities in the event of a bushfire. We help maintain state forests and offer recreational spaces and mountain bike tracks through our production forests.

Our awareness program, [Victoria Wood](#), aims to bring the stories of wood products and their makers closer to Victorians.



Need an expert related to forestry? We can put you in touch with a range of experts on the following topics:

- Biosecurity
- Building Codes
- Bushfires
- Carbon and climate
- Certifications
- Ecology
- Engineered wood
- Exports
- Farm forestry
- Feral / invasive species
- Housing/House frames
- Pallets
- Paper, Cardboard, Recycled paper
- Plantations
- Policy, advocacy, govt relations
- Traditional Owner-related issues
- Training, skills
- WHS matters

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VFPA is the peak industry body representing the forestry products value chain in Victoria from those growing, managing and harvesting our sustainable plantations and multiple use natural forests to the primary and secondary processing of timber, the manufacture of pulp and paper, and the value-added timber and pulp and paper products supply chains.