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National Forest Products Week

You wake up and take a deep breath, smelling crisp autumn air. You wonder where does this gift come from. It's always a combination of things, but most simply, trees. Most people don't notice trees they see every day. If you really think about it, trees do an incredible amount for us, including the production of oxygen. Trees are a good building material, environmentally and economically, by being very cost effective, readily available, and environmentally friendly.

With population rising, there is a need for building materials, and people want the most affordable option. Wood is a naturally renewable resource unlike other building materials like steel and concrete. It takes lot less energy to produce, making it a less costly choice. According to Idahoforests.org, forest products industries are a large piece of Idaho's economy because they gives over 15,000 people jobs. Also, over two billion dollars in timber revenue are earned per year. Wood is also eye-catching and Idaho has over 20 types of trees to choose from for your next building project.

Secondly, trees are readily available, often within your backyard, or community. For many Idahoans, wood is very close to home, seeing as Idaho has 21.5 million acres of forest. That's 40% of Idaho's overall land and Idaho harvests more than one million board feet of wood each year. It is shipped far and wide for easy building materials along with other needs of the people.

Pollution is everywhere! Wood can help fix that if we choose it over other, less environmentally acceptable materials. Wood is easily biodegradable and even helps its kin by putting nutrients into the soil after its fallen. Metals and concrete can't disappear from the world

after being made like wood eventually can. Wood can do so much for by doing exactly what it naturally does.

Using trees for building is great if we control how much we use during a period of time. Trees are a good material environmentally and economically because they're cost effective, readily available, and environmentally friendly. Do you see trees a bit differently now?

Works Cited

“Forest Information”. *Idaho Forests Products Commission*. 2019. idahoforests.org/forest-information. 14 October 2019. Web.