

Amazing Trees

Trees produce many, many products. Three things trees give us that I am especially thankful for are toilet paper, buildings, and shade.

I cannot think of what I would do without toilet paper. Toilet paper is made from processed wood. Wood chips are mixed with water and chemicals to make a slurry. The pulp is washed to remove the lignin. Then a bleaching process removes the color. Before toilet paper was invented, people had to use leaves. I am so very glad that we have toilet paper today.

I am very thankful we have wood to build buildings. Imagine having no buildings, sheds, homes, or any shelter that includes wood. An example of a wood that we use for buildings is plywood. Plywood is a material manufactured from thin layers of wood veneer that are glued together. Trees are amazing because we can use them in so many ways!

Don't you want shade when it is hot outside? Did you know that trees cool the air by a process known as 'transpiration cooling'? As trees release water into the atmosphere from their leaves, the surrounding air gets cooled as water goes from liquid to vapor. When I have been working outside all day I would want some shade to cool off. Trees are very useful for shade.

I am so glad that we have wood products. I hope that you have realized how important wood and wood products are.

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