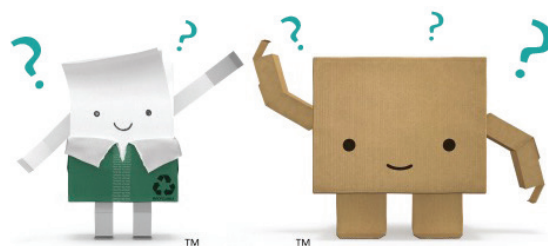


# Do You Know These Facts About Paper?

You know paper is recyclable. You know it comes from trees. But did you know that the paper industry plays an integral role in protecting the forest lands of the United States? Or that foresters grow more wood than they harvest?

Our true-false quiz will help you learn some fun facts about paper—and about its importance in caring for the planet.

- 
- |                            |  |                            |   |
|----------------------------|--|----------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> T | 1. Since the first Earth Day celebration in 1970, the number of trees planted in the United States has decreased by 20%. | <input type="checkbox"/> T | 9. It's important to recycle paper because it comes from a renewable resource.                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> F |  | <input type="checkbox"/> F |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> T | 2. Forestry is responsible for the largest supply of municipal drinking water in the country.                            | <input type="checkbox"/> T | 10. More than 90% of corrugated boxes and containers in the U.S. are recovered for recycling. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> F |  | <input type="checkbox"/> F |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> T | 3. Trees in U.S. forests absorb more carbon dioxide than forestry related activities produce.                            | <input type="checkbox"/> T | 11. Americans are consistently getting better about not sending paper to landfills.           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> F |  | <input type="checkbox"/> F |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> T | 4. Americans love to recycle—we recycle paper, glass, metal and plastic equally.   | <input type="checkbox"/> T | 12. It's important to go paperless for things like bills in order to “go green.”              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> F |  | <input type="checkbox"/> F |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> T | 5. The paper industry uses every part of the tree.   | <input type="checkbox"/> T | 13. Roughly half of the average corrugated cardboard box is made up of recycled materials.    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> F |  | <input type="checkbox"/> F |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> T | 6. Paper mills typically reuse water at least 10 times before purifying and returning it to waterways.                   |                            |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> F |  |                            |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> T | 7. There are more trees planted every day in the United States than there are people in Chicago.                         |                            |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> F |  |                            |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> T | 8. Paper is a main cause of litter on America's beaches.   |                            |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> F |  |                            |   |



# Answer Sheet

- T 1. There are actually 20% more trees in the United States today<sup>1</sup> than there were during the first Earth Day.  
 F
- T 2. The paper industry helps ensure that forests are cared for<sup>2</sup>, which translates to healthy drinking water<sup>3</sup>. In fact, forest cover has been linked to lowering costs of treating drinking water. The more forests in a watershed, the less treatment needs to be done. Drink up!  
 F
- T 3. This makes them effective “carbon sinks,” the term for an environment that absorbs more carbon dioxide than it releases<sup>4</sup>.  
 F
- T 4. Way more paper is recycled than anything else. In fact, on average, paper and cardboard account for 75% of packaging materials recovered for recycling in the United States<sup>5</sup>.  
 F
- T 5. The industry uses every part of the tree, down to its bark, which can be used to generate bioenergy. Some mills actually produce more energy than they consume thanks to biomass energy<sup>6</sup>.  
 F
- T 6. Making paper uses a lot of water, but producers return most of what they use after responsible treatment<sup>7</sup>.  
 F
- T 7. Every day, 3.2 million trees are planted in the country<sup>8</sup>—more than Chicago’s 2.7 million residents<sup>9</sup>.  
 F
- T 8. Paper is not among the top 10 materials found in beach litter<sup>10</sup>.  
 F
- T 9. It’s important to recycle paper as a part of caring for the planet. Paper is made from trees—a renewable resource—and recycled paper pulp. The forest industry grows more trees than it harvests each year<sup>11</sup>.  
 F
- T 10. It’s 96.4%, to be precise<sup>12</sup>.  
 F
- T 11. In 2018, we sent about 21.3 million tons of paper to landfills—down from 33 million tons in 2008, about one-third less<sup>13</sup>.  
 F
- T 12. Don’t fall for claims like these—they are often unsubstantiated. In North America, 120 companies—including many from the Fortune 500—have clarified or removed such claims. Electronic infrastructures have an environmental footprint as well. For example, the United States collected about 22% of the country’s e-waste in 2016, compared with its paper recovery rate of 68% in 2018<sup>14</sup>.  
 F
- T 13. And nearly all corrugated boxes are used to make recycled paper products<sup>15</sup>.  
 F

1 American Forest & Paper Association. “Fun Facts.” Retrieved 4.9.2020.

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3 American Forests. “The Important Relationship Between Forests and Water.” Retrieved 4.15.2020.

4 U.S. Forest Service. “U.S. Forests and Carbon.” Retrieved 4.10.2020.

5 American Forest & Paper Association. “Packaging Recovery.” Retrieved 4.1.2020.

6 Two Sides North America. “Print and Paper: The Facts.” Retrieved 4.1.2020.

7 American Forest & Paper Association. “2018 AF&PA Sustainability Report.” Retrieved 4.1.2020.

8 United States Department of Agriculture. “Forest Nursery Seedling Production in the United States—Fiscal Year 2012.” Tree Planters’ Notes, 56 (2). Retrieved 4.1.2020; reported by American Forest & Paper Association. “Wood Products.” Retrieved 4.8.2020.

9 The United States Census Bureau. “Quick Facts: Chicago City, Illinois.” Retrieved 4.6.2020.

10 United States Environmental Protection Agency. “Sources of Aquatic Trash.” Retrieved 4.7.2020.

11 Two Sides North America. “In North America, We Grow Many More Trees Than We Harvest.” Retrieved 4.15.2020.

12 American Forest & Paper Association. “Recovery & Use of Old Corrugated Containers.” Retrieved 4.6.2020.

13 American Forest & Paper Association. “Paper Recovery & Landfill.” Retrieved 4.1.2020.

14 Two Sides North America. “Electronic Communication.” Retrieved 4.6.2020.

15 Corrugated.org. “Recycling Corrugated Packaging.” Retrieved 4.7.2020.