



PPEC Factsheet

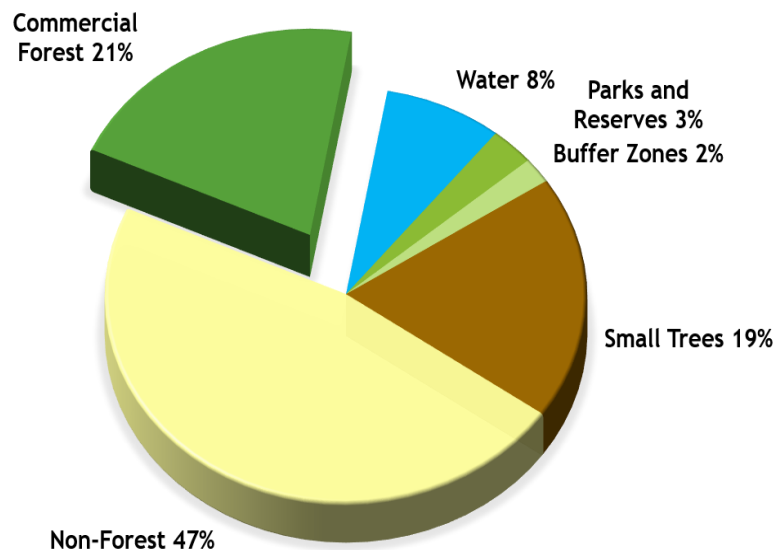
Paper packaging comes from a renewable resource

Unlike most other packaging materials, paper packaging is originally made from a **renewable** resource — trees. Trees help reduce greenhouse gases in the atmosphere by acting as a giant set of lungs: inhaling the carbon dioxide that people, animals and decomposing matter produce; and exhaling oxygen which sustains all living organisms (including us). And in Canada those trees are in good shape. See Factsheet – [The Truth about Trees](#).

It may come as a surprise to many, but the commercial forest represents only 21% of Canada’s total land area (by far the greatest part is what is called “non-forest land” — primarily used for the growing of agricultural crops).

And of that 21% that is commercial forest, less than half of one per cent (0.2%) is actually harvested for lumber and pulp and paper products.¹ Packaging represents a tiny fraction of this because most paper packaging made in Canada is recycled content (average 77%), or sawdust and woodchips left over from logging operations, the timber being used to build such things as homes and hospitals. Just over 10% of the average package is harvested directly from freshly-cut trees.²

And those forests are all certified by third parties as being sustainably managed.³ About 60% is currently regenerated through tree planting and direct seeding, while the remainder is regenerated naturally.¹



¹ [The State of Canada’s Forests](#), Annual Report of federal government department National Resources Canada 2016

² PPEC Recycled Content Furnish Survey (2016)

³ Canadian Standards Association (CSA); Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI), Programme for the Endorsement of Forestry Certification (PEFC); Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). Over 40% of the world’s third-party certified forest is right here in Canada (www.certificationcanada.org)