

# Busting the Environmental Myths

## THE TRUTH ABOUT PAPER-BASED PACKAGING

The following statistics and data compiled by Two Sides North America break through the clutter of misinformation regarding paperboard and paper-based packaging production in the U.S.

*Paper is one of the few products on earth that already has an environmentally sustainable, circular life cycle. It is made from an infinitely renewable natural resource – trees that are purpose-grown, harvested and regrown in sustainably managed forests. It is manufactured using mostly renewable, carbon neutral bioenergy in a process that uses a lot of water, but consumes very little of it. And paper products are recycled more than any other material.*

– Two Sides North America

### MYTH:

Paper and paper production is destroying U.S. forests

### FACT:

U.S. forests are a renewable natural resource that is continuously replenished through sustainable forest management and natural regeneration



### MYTH:

Paper manufacturing is a major cause of greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change

### FACT:

The pulp and paper industry contributes less than 1% of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions



### MYTH:

Paper manufacturing uses excessive amounts of water

### FACT:

While papermaking requires large amounts of water, very little water is actually consumed in the production process



### MYTH:

Using paper products is wasteful

### FACT:

Paper recycling extends the supply of a valuable natural resource (wood fiber from sustainably managed forests), saves landfill space, and avoids greenhouse gas emissions (methane) that results when paper decomposes in landfills



### MYTH:

Only recycled paper should be used to make new paper products

### FACT:

The continuous input of wood fiber from sustainably managed forests is essential to the paper production cycle



### MYTH:

Paper is a dying industry

### FACT:

The U.S. paper industry makes products essential for everyday life

