

# How Wood Impacts Your Life



Trees from Georgia's forests are used in thousands of common consumer items. Scientists have studied the structure of trees and discovered that all parts, big or small, can play a big role in improving your health and our everyday lives. If you're ever at a loss for how to quickly communicate to Georgians who don't know the value of our working forests, here's a one-page guide:

## Wood Skyscrapers

**Cross laminated timber (CLT)** is a structural wood panel that is typically made up of several layers of glued dimensional lumber. The large-scale, prefabricated panels with steel-like strength unlock the potential to use wood in mid- and high-rise structures<sup>1</sup>.

The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that the amount of carbon stored annually in forest products in the U.S. is equivalent to removing more than 70 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere every year<sup>2</sup>.



## Durable Products

Did you know that nanocellulose, a derivative of wood, is a stiff, durable material that is eight times the strength of steel<sup>3</sup>? It is being used in several innovative products you may not have expected, including<sup>4</sup>:

- ▶ Lightweight body armor
- ▶ Lighter, more fuel-efficient cars
- ▶ Flexible and strong cell phone screens
- ▶ Tracking and identification components for packaging
- ▶ Flexible solar cells that are printed on paper

## Life Sustaining Products

Wood and derivatives from wood, such as wood pulp, cellulose and rayon, are also used in more than 5,000 common consumer items including<sup>5</sup>:

- ▶ Candles
- ▶ Clothing
- ▶ Cough syrup
- ▶ Crayons
- ▶ Eyeglass frames
- ▶ Football helmets
- ▶ Gum
- ▶ Lipstick
- ▶ Make-up
- ▶ Maple syrup
- ▶ Nail polish
- ▶ Paint
- ▶ Parmesan cheese
- ▶ Pencils
- ▶ Perfume
- ▶ Shampoo
- ▶ Sponges
- ▶ Tires
- ▶ Toilet tissue
- ▶ Toothpaste ■



1) *ReThink Wood* (2017). *Cross Laminated Timber*. Web; accessed: September 2017. 2) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2011). *Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2011, table 7.7*. 3) Anthony, Sebastian (2012). *Nanocellulose: A cheap, conductive, stronger-than-Kevlar wonder material made from wood pulp*. *Extreme Tech*. Web; accessed: September 2017. 4) Elizabeth Lenhard (2017). *Forestry on a Cellular Level*. *Georgia Forestry Magazine*. Web; accessed: September 2017. 5) *Georgia Forestry Commission* (2013). *What do we get from trees?*. Web; accessed: September 2017.



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