

Guide to Environmental Copy Paper

➤ Office papers to buy ➤ Ways to reduce our paper impacts on forests and climate ➤ An explanation of paper brandings

- ✓ Help protect our forests and wildlife
- ✓ Reduce our environmental footprint
- ✓ Protect us from climate change

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Where does our paper come from?

Paper use is one of the greatest drivers behind deforestation worldwide. Every year, over 15 million hectares of Earth's forests are destroyed. In Australia, since European settlement, over 90% of our old growth forests have been cleared or logged. Today, woodchipping for paper production continues to drive the destruction of native forests in Australia, with over three quarters of all trees being woodchipped. Woodchipping destroys old growth forests and degrades water catchments, polluting our rivers and reducing water supplies.

Logging in native forests has global impacts. It adds to climate change, reduces biodiversity and threatens the survival of our native flora and fauna.

The problems seem big, but some of the solutions are simple. This brochure helps you make informed choices about the paper you use in your office and home and reduce the impact on the world around you.

How can I help?

Reduce paper use

Save the environment by using less paper in the first place.

- Only print when absolutely necessary
- Use double sided printing
- Replace paper faxes with electronic fax software or email, and store documents electronically
- Rationalise reports and printed documentation

Using less paper not only saves forests, it saves water and electricity, reduces landfill, reduces greenhouse pollution and saves you money.

Avoid buying paper that destroys forests and contributes to climate change

Woodchips from Australia's native forests are exported to make paper overseas. Domestically, native forests are logged for paper, cardboard and packaging, destroying the habitat of endangered species such as the Leadbeaters Possum, the Tasmanian Wedge-tailed Eagle and the Western Ringtail Possum. When these forests are logged, vast amounts of carbon are released into the atmosphere, contributing to climate change.

In many countries, irresponsible and illegal logging is widespread and makes it impossible to determine where the paper fibre comes from. Many imported papers come from areas where tropical rainforest logging has caused human rights abuses and devastating forest fires.

Buy 100% post-consumer waste recycled paper

Buying 100% post-consumer waste recycled paper is the best way to minimise the impacts of your paper consumption. Compared with non-recycled paper, one tonne of this paper saves:

- 60% water use
- 75% bleach use
- 27 kilograms of air pollutants
- 2.5 barrels of oil
- 2.5 tonnes of greenhouse gases
- 4 cubic metres of landfill

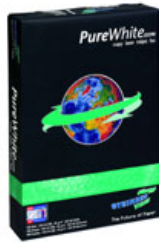
And of course, you are not contributing to the destruction of our forests, nor to the enormous amount of carbon released into the atmosphere from logging.

Help protect our forests. Buy these papers...

These papers are the best available in Australia:



- Evolve - Business and Office, A4 and A3



- Vision – Pure White 100% A4 and A3, + 10 colours



- Fuji Xerox Recycled Supreme, A4 and A3 + 5 pastel colours



- OfficeWorks - 100% recycled A4 (Greenpeace endorsed)



- Any brand with **FSC 100% recycled logo** Responsible Forest Management FSC-SECR-0151

Although they are made overseas, the carbon footprint of transportation to Australia is less than that of logging operations in forests. Unfortunately, no Australian company currently manufactures a 100% post-consumer waste recycled paper. We strongly encourage them to do so, and hope that we can recommend them in the near future.

Suppliers of the above papers

Please be careful when reading labels, as these companies supply other papers that look similar but are very different. We do not advocate the use of other papers sold by them.

SCRAP	02 9825 1062	www.scrapltd.com.au (Discount available)
Ecocern	02 9337 2737	www.ecocern.com
Going Solar	03 9348 1000	www.goingsolar.com.au
Friends of the Earth	03 9419 8700	
Fuji Xerox	131411	www.xeroxsupplies.com.au
Officeworks	1300 OFFICE	www.officeworks.com.au
Office Choice Aust	1300 360 213	www.officechoice.com.au
Special Equipment	02 9609 2300	
CPI	03 9239 3600	www.cpigroup.com.au
Office Products Depot		www.officeproductsdepot.com.au
Angleton's OPD	03 9419 5855	
Industrial Stationers	03 9614 2751	
Paperlinx	1800 72 97 77	(for Evolve only)

These papers are also available through other outlets. Please contact us for details.

Other paper brandings

There are other brandings available but none are as good as the papers we recommend. Here is a rundown of the other brandings. We do **NOT** endorse any of the following brandings, and emphasise the need to look at the details on the label:

Better

FSC Mixed Sources (label with recycled logo) – A mix of recycled and 100% FSC product. Commitment to protect high conservation value forests

FSC 100% – Commitment to protect high conservation value forests, but no recycled product

Avoid the following brandings:

FSC Mixed Sources which include Controlled Wood – Fibre sourced from highly contentious areas

PEFC (including AFS) – Poor governance, includes wood from badly managed forests, linked to world's worst forestry practices here in Australia

ISO 14001 – No guarantees regarding any environmental outcomes

Worse

No logo – Includes wood from illegally logged tropical forests, linked to displacement of indigenous communities, potential extinction of wildlife under threat from logging



The future of paper

It is stated that we can only recycle paper a limited number of times. This is very true, but since there is so much virgin fibre paper on the market, we are a long way from having only recycled fibres from which to make paper. Office paper recycling has plenty of room to grow, and this will create more jobs and reduce waste. Our goal is to have only recycled papers on the market with truly ecologically sustainable new fibres being added to make up the remaining content.

By buying recycled paper you are increasing the demand and driving the changes required to truly reduce our impacts on our forests and forest ecosystems.

The issues in this brochure are the same for other printing papers. Please buy post-consumer recycled paper for all your printing needs, not just for copy paper.

For more information

We would be happy to give you or your organisation a presentation related to paper and its impacts on biodiversity and the environment. For more information, please contact us.

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