

Media Release

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Sustainable forest industries are essential for our future: A key point this World Environment Day

It's important to remember this World Environment Day, the critical role our international sustainable forest industries play, improving the global environment, storing carbon, and fighting climate change across the world, Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA), Ross Hampton said.

This year's World Environment Day theme, hosted by Sweden in 2022, is *Only One Earth*, which focuses on living in harmony with nature.

"Australia is a world leader in sustainable forest management and timber and fibre production, creating essential products that we all need, from new homes to furniture, tissue and sustainable packaging," Ross Hampton said.

"Global sustainable forestry does amazing work for the world-wide environment. As trees grow, they absorb carbon, producing sustainable carbon storing products like no other material.

"As the world pivots away from harmful plastics and other materials, increasingly more countries are looking to sustainable timber and fibre to replace them. Instead of plastic packaging, we're all turning to paper and cardboard packaging. Instead of steel and concrete in construction, the world is turning increasingly to specially engineered timber.

"Sustainable forest, timber and fibre industries are a critical part of the solution in conserving and strengthening the world's environment," Ross Hampton concluded.

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