



## THE BIG QUESTION: PAPER OR PLASTIC?

### PAPER, PLEASE!!

#### 7 GREAT REASONS TO CHOOSE PAPER:

##### 1) FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

When tree farmers are able to use their land to grow timber for paper, the trees they grow do much more than provide timber and pulp for mills. Trees also purify the air and water. Did you know that working forests remove almost 1.5 tons of carbon dioxide from the air for every ton of wood they produce? They also create more than a ton of oxygen. Working forests provide natural areas for water recharge and storage, too.

##### 2) FOR WILDLIFE

Working forests give wildlife a place to call home. As Florida becomes more and more developed, it becomes even more important to keep working forests working to provide habitats for a wide range of species.

##### 3) FOR FLORIDA

Working forests have a \$25 billion impact on our state's economy. Growing trees for paper and other forest products keeps Florida's economy growing. Ownership of Florida's 17.1 million acres of forestland is both private (64%) and public (36%).

##### 4) FOR YOUR NEIGHBORS

Working forests help provide jobs for more than 124,000 people in Florida.

##### 5) FOR YOURSELF

Paper bags are sturdy and easy to carry. They also hold a lot, so fewer trips are needed when you're bringing groceries in from the car. They can be reused in a variety of ways from trash bags to craft projects. And they make you feel good because you know you're doing your part to keep working forests working!

##### 6) FOR YOUR CHILDREN

Working forests need to keep working in order to stay forested. Most landowners rely on income from a strong market for forest products to pay for the costs of maintaining their forests. Without the market, some of the current forestlands would be turned into cropland or be developed. But if the demand remains solid, your children—and their children – will be able to derive all the same benefits from working forests that you do.

##### 7) FOR THE FUTURE

Paper comes from a renewable source. In working forests, healthy markets mean that trees are planted to replace the ones that are cut down. Paper is easily recycled; its recycling rates are extremely high.



*"WORKING FORESTS WORK"*

[www.FloridaForest.org](http://www.FloridaForest.org)