

FORESTS CARBON CYCLE GROW. HARVEST. STORE...

LEGEND

- █ Capturing Carbon
- █ Releasing Carbon
- █ Moving carbon

The use of sustainably harvested forest biomass to generate renewable energy permanently eliminates atmospheric emissions that would otherwise have resulted from use of fossil fuels

PHOTOSYNTHESIS
CO₂ is sequestered

Estimated 10.5 billion tonnes of carbon (excluding soil carbon) in Australian forests

FOSSIL FUELS

Wood products typically require less energy to make than alternative materials. Because energy rating schemes and environmental assessments are typically not based on full-life-cycle assessments, the comparative environmental advantages of sustainably harvested wood are not fully recognised

ENERGY

Net carbon emissions from bush fires are reduced through undertaking prescribed burns

Animal's excretion

Litter and other forest biomass

PRESCRIBED BURNING

LITTER LAYER

TIMBER HARVESTING

TIMBER PROCESSING

TIMBER PRODUCTS

RECYCLING

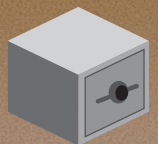
DISPOSAL

Decomposition respiration

Soil organic matter

In Australia wood products store an estimated 230 million tonnes of carbon, helping to mitigate climate change

Timber products in landfill represent an important long term store of carbon (estimated 70,000 tonnes per year in Australia)



Carbon store

