

## Copy Paper

### Why we care

Papermaking is one of the largest and most resource intensive industries in the world. Logging can destroy ecosystems, cause erosion, and release carbon into the atmosphere. According to US government figures, pulp and paper manufacturers are the fourth largest industrial emitters of greenhouse gases and in the top five in emissions of toxic chemicals into water and air. Paper is also the largest component of our land filled waste. The good news is that recycling greatly reduces these impacts, and paper fibers can be recycled about eight times before becoming too short for papermaking.

### Simple, positive change

- Purchase *100% post-consumer recycled* paper. Post-consumer means the fiber was returned to a manufacturer through a recycling program. Paper labeled only *recycled* can refer to factory scrap that never left the mill.
- Today's recycled paper is perfected for use in copiers. Choose from these brands available locally:
  - *Boise Aspen 100* from Blue Ribbon Business Products, Paper Plus, and Kelly Paper
  - *Staples 100* from Staples
  - *Envirocopy 100* from Office Depot and Office Max
- Non-chlorine-based bleaches are best for the environment. Look for recycled paper that is PCF (processed chlorine free) or virgin paper that is TCF (totally chlorine free).
- The Forest Stewardship Council certifies forest products that use fibers harvested in a responsible manner. Look for *FSC* when purchasing paper with virgin content.
- 100% tree-free papers, such as kenaff or bagasse are also a good choice.

**Questions or feedback? Contact Jeanne Roy at [jeanne@earthleaders.org](mailto:jeanne@earthleaders.org).**