



**SUSTAINING OUR CYPRESS FORESTS**  
**March 14, 2007**

Corbitt Manufacturing, Inc. shares the concern of many people regarding the care and protection of our natural resources. Although cypress is a dynamic, self-renewing resource, we agree there are conditions under which this resource should be left untouched. We do not own or oversee any logging operations. We are manufacturers of finished wood products and have no involvement in the harvesting of timber, regardless of species. To help ensure the beneficial stewardship and sustainability of our forests, we leave this task to the experts. From our inception in 1964 to this date, we have never employed any loggers, logging crews, nor logging contractors. The landowners and/or loggers have the option to sell their timber to whomever they choose.

There has been much discussion recently about the harvesting of cypress in protective coastal regions of Louisiana. Corbitt Manufacturing, Inc. adamantly supports efforts to protect these areas. This issue directly correlates to loggers using Best Management Practices to dictate their harvesting efforts. Best Management Practices is a system of land management criteria that guide landowners, and timber harvesters in operations that sustain profitable forest operations while protecting wetlands, soil, wildlife, water, forests, and other environmental concerns.

Unfortunately, self-appointed advocacy groups in this region have begun attacking the mulch industry and Corbitt Manufacturing, Inc. using a campaign of deception and misinformation. Forests & People Magazine, the official publication of the Louisiana Forestry Association, recently published an editorial challenging the statements propagated by this campaign. To read this editorial in its entirety, click here. <http://www.cypress-mulch.com/cypresseditorial.pdf>

The Louisiana Forestry Association is the sponsor of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) in Louisiana. This initiative specifically addresses forestry practices designed to meet current needs without compromising the needs of future generations.

As a processor of wood products, Corbitt Manufacturing, Inc. has a huge interest in the sustainability and protection of forest resources. Using Best Management Practices in the harvesting of timber helps ensure the health and regeneration of our forests.

To find more information on Best Management Practices or the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, refer to the web sites are listed below.

**Florida Forestry Association**      [www.floridaforest.org](http://www.floridaforest.org)  
**Louisiana Forestry Association**      [www.laforestry.com](http://www.laforestry.com)

Related articles:

**Ancient trees discovered in swamp forest** (Virginia Native Plant Society - November, 2006)  
<http://www.vnps.org/state/vnpsnov06.pdf>

**Cypress at heart of debate** (The Daily Advertiser Lafayette, LA - Feb. 12, 2007)  
<http://www.theadvertiser.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070212/NEWS01/702120309/1002>

**Continue to Corbitt Manufacturing's website**  
<http://www.cypress-mulch.com/index.html>



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