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The Good Wood Project

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Want to make sure the wood you purchase is not contributing to the destruction of the world's forests?

Rainforest Action Group of Edmonton and Sierra Club- Prairie Chapter have initiated a project to produce a Consumer's Guide to Good Wood in Edmonton. By "good wood" we mean wood that does not come from endangered forests and wood that is Forest Stewardship Council certified. The guide will be both on the Sierra Club website and distributed as a hard copy. Information used to create the guide will be posted on the website as it becomes available. You can check it out now at <http://www.sierraclub.ca/prairie>

Currently the only identified by this project as good wood is recycled wood, and contact information for companies who sell recycled wood is posted on the website.

However, two major retailers (IKEA and Home Depot) have made international commitments with respect to endangered forests and the purchase of Forest Stewardship Council certified wood. One of the first steps of the Good Wood Project is to clarify their position and how their commitments affect what they supply to the Edmonton consumer. It is hoped, in view of their concern for endangered forests and certified forest products, they will develop wood purchasing policies in Edmonton that will give positive options for consumers.

As part of this project Edmonton retailers and home builders will be contacted to try to engage their support for a wood purchasing policy that will contribute to the protection of some of our forests, and better forest management of the rest as defined by the requirement of Forest Stewardship Council certification.