

As an Australian leader in the manufacture of timber windows and doors, Stegbar has a responsibility to ensure that we are environmentally astute about the timber we use and the way in which it is harvested, and are diligent in ensuring that we do not support environmentally unsound practices.

At Stegbar we believe in and support sustainable forestry practices by only purchasing timber from companies that have been certified and comply with environmental legislations set out by government regulators. Stegbar ensures that the timber used in our windows and doors comes from forests that are being regenerated, where wildlife habitat is protected and the biodiversity of the forest is maintained for future generations.

Our commitment to sustainability does not end here. The way in which we process timber is conducted to minimise the impact to our environment. Making use of all by-products Stegbar recycles all timber offcuts and sawdust. Timber offcuts are taken and joined together creating pieces of engineered solid cedar components. Small offcuts pieces are sent to garden mulch processor, to be turned into mulch for gardens. Sawdust is used by farmers as floor bedding; this bedding is gathered up regularly and re-used as fertiliser.

Western Red Cedar Facts

- Stegbar mainly uses one type of timber – Western Red Cedar (WRC).
- WRC occurs naturally in the forests of the northern United States of America and on the west coast of Canada in the region known as British Columbia.
- Stegbar's major supplier is a Canadian company called Western Forest Products.
- WRC harvested from British Columbia must comply with the high environmental standards and strict regulations set out by Canadian Law. To ensure the sustainable harvesting and management of WRC only purchase from certified sources.

- There are three major Certification programs in use in British Columbia;

- ◆ International Standard Organisation (ISO)
- ◆ Canadian Standards Association's (CSA)
- ◆ Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI)
- ◆ Forest Stewardship Council (FSC);

All involve independent, qualified third- party audits that measure the company's planning, practices, systems and performance against predetermined standards.

- These programs ensure that harvested areas are reforested, laws are obeyed and that there is no unauthorized or illegal logging.
- Clear cut harvesting is now being phased out in British Columbia, a harvesting technique called variable retention, which requires retaining enough trees, snags and coarse woody debris to keep the forest structure intact, is now practiced.

For information on the benefits of using Western Red Cedar refer to data sheet Windows & Doors Material Selection.

Visit the websites listed below for the latest news and information on sustainable harvesting and management of WRC.

- www.wrcea.org
- www.wrcla.org



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