



GARDEN FURNITURE SCORECARD 2008



Tropical forests are rapidly disappearing around the globe. 25 million acres of tropical forests disappeared in Asia, Africa and Latin America annually from 2000 to 2005. Wildlife dependent on this ecosystem are being pushed to extinction as the habitat is fragmented and lost. Human communities are displaced as well when the resources they subsist

on are no longer available. Ongoing deforestation of tropical forests contributes an estimated one quarter of global greenhouse gas emissions, and sacrifices their critical role in carbon sequestration. One major cause of tropical deforestation is the demand for tropical timber used in manufacturing outdoor furniture.

As major consumers of outdoor furniture made from tropical woods, Americans have an opportunity to influence the garden furniture choices available in the stores where we shop – and to move toward products that come from sustainably, well-managed forests. The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification system offers a way to distinguish wood products from forest management that protects water, soil and wildlife habitat while providing wood products.

The marketplace is full of product claims about being “eco-friendly”, “green”, or the result of sustainable harvesting, but few of these products have been assessed to verify the claims. The FSC logo assures that claims about responsible stewardship accurately reflect what is happening in the forest. Let your purchases reflect your values for high quality design, price, and forest conservation. Ask for FSC-certified products.

In 2007, we created this scorecard to help people find FSC-certified garden furniture. We contacted some of the largest U.S. retailers of these products and asked them to share information about their wooden garden furniture product lines. Where did the wood in the products come from? Were their products FSC-certified or moving toward FSC certification? We received information from written communications, phone calls and retail store visits, and have made every effort to verify responses. This 2008 update includes more stores and shows an increase in FSC-certified garden furniture available.



Major Retailers That Carry A Wide Selection of FSC-certified Garden Furniture:

Crate & Barrel ★★★★★

Pier I ★★★★★

Gardener's Supply Company ★★★★★

The Home Depot ★★★★★

Wal-Mart ★★★★★

JCPenney ★★★

Pottery Barn ★★★

Target ★★★

Frontgate ★★

LL Bean ★★

Lowe's ★★

Smith & Hawken ★★

IKEA ★

BJ's Wholesale – No Response

Costco Wholesale – No Response

Cost Plus/World Market – No Response

Kmart – No Response

Land's End – No Response

Menard – No Response

Restoration Hardware – No Response

Room & Board – No Response

Sears – No Response

Key:

★ – Company responded to NWF survey

★★ – Company has limited offerings (up to 35%) of FSC-certified wooden outdoor furniture or products sourced from forests working toward FSC-certification.

★★★ – Company has a moderate range of offerings (36% to 70%) of FSC-certified wooden outdoor furniture or products sourced from forests working toward FSC-certification.

★★★★ – Company has substantial offerings (71% to 99%) of FSC-certified wooden outdoor furniture or products sourced from forests working toward FSC-certification.

★★★★★ – Company carries 100% FSC-certified wooden outdoor furniture or products sourced from forests working toward FSC-certification.

“Forests working toward FSC-certification” are those involved in a third-party verifiable program such as Tropical Forest Trust, World Wildlife Fund's Global Forest & Trade Network, and Rainforest Alliance's SmartSteps program.

Ask for the **FSC logo** when you purchase garden furniture and wood products.





Photo by John Kormendy

GARDEN FURNITURE SCORECARD

The U.S. is the world's largest wood products consumer. Our garden furniture and wood product purchases impact wildlife around the globe and in our backyards. Support a vibrant future for wildlife and reward responsible forest management by shopping for FSC-certified products.

FSC-certified garden furniture available from the retailers involved in our scorecard includes:

Crate & Barrel ★★★★★

FSC-certified: Arbor Dining Collection (4 pieces); Arbor Lounge Collection (9 pieces)

Moving toward FSC-certified: Trovata Dining Collection (6 pieces); Trovata Lounge Collection (14 pieces)

Pier 1 ★★★★★

FSC-certified: Natural Wood Outdoor Furniture Collection (4 pieces)

Moving toward FSC-certified: The Pier Painted Wood Collection (7 pieces)

Gardener's Supply Company ★★★★★

FSC-certified: Champlain Furniture Collection (5 pieces); Savannah Furniture Collection (3 pieces)

Moving toward FSC-certified: Reflection Bench; Reforest Teak (12 pieces)

The Home Depot ★★★★★

FSC-certified: Hampton Bay Amazon Teak Collection (15 pieces); Thomasville Nature's Retreat Collection (7 pieces); Eucalyptus Collection (6 pieces)

Wal-Mart ★★★★★

FSC-certified: Delahey collection (23 pieces); Home Trends (3 pieces); Metro Outdoor collection (5 pieces); Milano Eucalyptus Wood Collection (7 pieces); Outdoor Cambridge Chair; Unique Arts Outdoor Relaxing Chair; Unique Arts Milan Sunbed; Hardwood Chaise Lounge Chair; Grampian Weather-Resistant Armchair; Grampian Weather-Resistant Bench; Birmingham Weather-Resistant Bench; Lido Weather-Resistant Bench

JCPenney ★★★

FSC-certified: Woodridge Outdoor Dining Collection (2 pieces); Madero Outdoor Furniture (4 pieces)

Transitioning to FSC-certified wood supplies from tropical forests is not a simple overnight effort. Our scorecard suggests a wide variety of action and commitment by retailers to carrying FSC-certified garden furniture in their stores, catalogs and on-line. NWF will continue tracking the progress of these and other major retailers of wooden outdoor furniture to help consumers make informed choices that consider price, quality and the value they place on wildlife-friendly forest management.

Pottery Barn ★★★

FSC-certified: Saratoga Sling Chair; Chesapeake Four-pole Hammock; Chesapeake Hammock; Chesapeake Cabana; Rectangular, Round, Square and 6' Round Market Umbrellas; Sail Canopy; Chesapeake Outdoor Furniture Collection for Kids (2 pieces); Chesapeake Safari Collection for Kids (8 pieces); Round Tilting Umbrella; Large Square Tilting Umbrella; Adirondack Collection for Kids (2 pieces)

Target ★★★

FSC-certified: Smith & Hawken Marlton Collection 2008 (13 pieces); Meraseine Collection (5 pieces); Beresmond Collection (5 pieces); Sean Conway Adirondack Collection (5 pieces)

Moving toward FSC-certified: Smith & Hawken Marlton Collection 2007 (10 pieces); Smith & Hawken Glensheer Collection (4 pieces)

Frontgate ★★

FSC-certified: 25% of the Gloster teak furniture products are manufactured with FSC-certified wood, but the products are not labeled with FSC

L.L. Bean ★★

FSC-certified: Market Umbrella, Wood Frame

Lowe's ★★

FSC-certified: 3-piece folding bistro set

Smith & Hawken ★★

FSC-certified: Best of Market Umbrella Collection (3 pieces); Sprouts (Childrens) Collection (4 pieces); Occasional Bar Stool; Nantucket Island Chaise; Avignon Double Chaise; Teak Serving Cart; Teak Ice Chest; Del Mar Chaise

Choosing FSC-certified garden furniture ensures that forests are managed to protect water, soil, and wildlife habitat in addition to providing wood products.



Photo: Fox-Willmar Productions



To learn more about the scorecard visit www.nwf.org/forests or contact Mark Lorenzo at lorenzo@nwf.org or (802)229-0650 x302.

Inspiring Americans to protect wildlife for our children's future.