



*This certifies that*

## **Augusta Lumber Company**

*is an*

## **Appalachian Hardwood Lumber Producer**

*member of Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc. and is a manufacturer located within the AHMI territory which produces lumber from Appalachian Hardwood timber. The AHMI territory is a*

## **Sustainable Hardwood Forest**

*as defined by AHMI and based in part on verified timber growth versus removal data from the Forest Inventory and Analysis of the*



## **United States Forest Service**

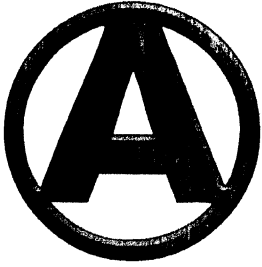


**Member: 10-0816**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas R. Inman".

Thomas R. Inman, AHMI President

*For more information, visit [www.appalachianhardwood.info](http://www.appalachianhardwood.info) or contact AHMI, P.O. Box 427, High Point, NC 27261  
[sustainable@appalachianhardwood.info](mailto:sustainable@appalachianhardwood.info)*



# AUGUSTA

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567 N. Charlotte Ave. P.O. Box 1528 Waynesboro, Virginia 22980 USA  
Office: 540.946.9150 Fax: 540.946.9153

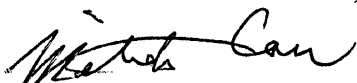
Dear Valued Customer:

As many of you know, Augusta Lumber has a long history of being an advocate of responsible forest management. Recently, the Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers Inc. (AHMI) was presented a study conducted by the U. S. Forest Service which verified that the Appalachian Hardwood Forest is increasing and the hardwood growth to removal ratio is 2.29. This growth to removal ration means that 2.29 times more wood has grown annually than has been removed. Removals include all removals, planned harvest, fires and tree deaths. This review of the Appalachian Hardwood regions was conducted by the United States Department of Agriculture- US Forest Service's Southern Research Station Forest Industry and Analysis Program.

The study pointed out two other significant points, the first one is that the area of timberland in the region has remained stable, with an estimated 65.1 million acres in 1990 and 65.4 million acres in 2004. The other point was that annual hardwood removals only account for 1% of the total annual inventory in the Appalachian Hardwood Region.

This packet includes Augusta's Corporate Commitment Statement on sustainable forests, a letter from AHMI about the U.S. Forest Service Study, and a certificate from AHMI acknowledging that Augusta Lumber is indeed a member of AHMI and operates within the Appalachian Forest Region covered in the study. We are proud and delighted to make this information available to you, so that you can assure your customers that the wood products you receive from Augusta do indeed come from a sustainable forest as verified by the U.S. Forest Service.

Sincerely,



Mitch O. Carr

Chief Executive Officer

[www.augustalumber.com](http://www.augustalumber.com)



## Augusta Lumber's Commitment to Sustainable Forests

Since our founding in 1955 Augusta Lumber has been an advocate of responsible forest management. Augusta's future depends on our ability to continue to source Appalachian hardwoods for the products we produce. This can only be accomplished through sustainable forestry.

Augusta is located in the midst of the 65 million acres of the Appalachian Hardwood Forest, and every day our employees see the source of the raw materials we use. We live in this beautiful region and are fortunate to have it for recreation. We hike in this forest, we camp in it, we bike in it, we hunt in it, we fish in it, and we find spiritual comfort in it. The Appalachian Forest not only provides our livelihood, but it provides us and our neighbors, and visitors with an inspiring venue that must not be squandered.

Augusta Lumber has a fifty year history of belonging to and supporting organizations committed to developing and improving sustainable forestry techniques. The Appalachian Hardwood Manufactures Inc. (AHMI) has long pursued the development and usage of best business practices in the management of our precious Appalachian Hardwood Forest (AHF). We are proud of the fact that the Appalachian Hardwood Forest is increasing. There are 2.29 trees growing for every tree that is being harvested. The U.S. Forest Service has declared the AHF a sustainable resource and we proudly offer our products with the AHMI sustainable verification seal.

Augusta Lumber has long used its foresters to reach out and support the landowners who sell their timber to us to develop long range plans and to use environmentally friendly practices to harvest their timber. We have joined with others to fund and support the development of a certification program that would assure the future availability of this precious resource. The result is the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI™) certification program that now has over 135 million acres of privately owned North American forestland covered by its sustainability protocol.

As Augusta Lumber begins the next fifty years of our existence we look back with pride on the impact we have had in the development and growth of sustainable forests and look forward to the continuation of practices that leave our children and grandchildren with not only a great playground but also the means to earn a living, provide beautiful products, and to enjoy the forests we so greatly treasure. The Appalachian Hardwood Forest is a resource that meets present needs without compromising those of future generations and is able to continue into the future—sustainably.

