



Green Statement 2009

Even in Blue, Maine Cottage is Green

Maine Cottage furniture is principally manufactured domestically (90% of total production value) in Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and North Carolina. With twenty years of thoughtful, conservationist business practices behind us, you can feel good about the environmental impact of your purchase of Maine Cottage products. Never about following the crowd, Maine Cottage has been making these "green" choices for twenty years because it has always felt right to us.

Low VOC Paint

From the beginning, we've made bold choices like choosing waterborne paint to finish our wood and rattan furniture. This was long before waterborne was cool. These environmentally friendly finishes require extra elbow grease to sand pieces smooth between coats and are much more expensive by-the-gallon than traditional solvent-based finishes. Our Maine Cottage waterborne finish formula saves the atmosphere from nasty, polluting VOCs and our paint shop crew from an unpleasant day on the job, both of which are important to us.

Regenerative Principal Materials

Our products are principally made of northern hardwoods that are a superior conservationist choice to products manufactured in other species. The northern broadleaf deciduous species that we use to build our furniture including maple, birch, and cherry are naturally regenerative. The proximity of these northern temperate forests to our manufacturing shops means we save on energy consuming transportation costs too.

Innovative Materials

We put forest resources to their highest value use. Through the use of high quality hardwood-faced veneered panels, we combine practical utility (humidity resistant panels) with getting the most out of the forest resource (wood waste-based core materials). As a result, we minimize wood waste in the construction of our goods and deliver a superior quality, lasting product for coastal homeowners. We even make dining tables out of reclaimed lumber from deconstructed New England barns.

Minimized Packing Material and Box Use

Packing material and box usage are minimized by Maine Cottage. We sell the majority of what we make, which saves on the packaging needed for transportation between intermediaries. We deliver most of our orders and products via a blanket wrap, "white glove" home delivery service that significantly reduces corrugated carton use. We are very proud of the savings in landfill waste as a result of this advanced business model.

Efficient Freight and Shipping

Needless to say, the energy used in the transportation of furniture products is a significant portion of the carbon footprint made by the home furnishing industry. There can be few companies who are more efficient in their use of freight and shipping, and related fuel usage, than Maine Cottage. Companies that rely on overseas manufacturing have a huge percentage of production cost that is based on transportation and fuel consumption. Our domestic production and customization of products to order, coupled with a single home delivery service provider, makes it so the price you pay for our goods fuels the US economy instead of container ships and long haul trucks.

Buy Quality, Save the Planet

Low cost, foreign made furniture is temporary furniture. You'll inevitably throw it away and contribute to the sad pile at your local landfill. Our products are made to be permanent. If you ever grow tired of your Maine Cottage furniture, your kids will happily take it off your hands. It will never, ever, end up in a landfill.

At Maine Cottage, before you choose blue (or red, orange, yellow, or white), we've chosen green for you.

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