

July 2025

NEW INDUSTRY ASSISTANCE

No-cost Technical Assistance Now Available to Wood Manufacturing Facilities

Domestic wood products manufacturing facilities (including sawmills, pellet mills, biomass processing facilities, and others), provide essential, local markets that support active forest management, reduce wildfire risks, and generate family-supporting jobs that strengthen rural communities. To remain competitive and continue playing this vital role, wood manufacturing facilities must continuously improve operations, invest in equipment, and enhance safety and efficiency. The USDA Forest Service has partnered with the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities to support direct, expert technical assistance to wood products manufacturers, provided by industry expert consults, through the Wood Manufacturing Assistance Team (WMAT).

The **WMAT** can support a wide range of services, including:

- Operational efficiency audits
- Identification of equipment or process improvements

- Development of long-term strategic investment plans
- Maintenance and safety program reviews
- Capital investment feasibility studies
- Identification of new markets or expansion opportunities

If you have technical assistance needs specific to **wood energy facilities**, please visit https://www.fs.usda.gov/r09/state-tribal-forestry/forest-markets-wood-energy-technical-assistance-team.

For information related to **Wood Manufacturing Assistance** or to **submit your interest**, visit
https://www.usendowment.org/wood-manufacturing-assistance-team

Woodworking Industry News

Two senators introduce legislation to boost rural economies & sawmill operations

https://www.woodworkingnetwork.com/news/woodworking-industry-news/two-senators-introduce-legislation-boost-rural-economies-sawmill

Industry Thoughts/Quotes:

News and quotes about the industry and utilization... Excerpts from the articles that caught my eye and if indicate a common theme I'll recap below. [Words in square brackets are

summaries of adjacent text or background info]. (Links are provided should you want to read the entire thing.

NEW TIMBER BUYER, PROCESSOR, CONTRACTOR AND MAKER LIST

Add your business with details on what you buy or what you process, or both! Contractors, sawmills, loggers, builders – anyone involved in forest and range management and potential merchantable material.

So many businesses on the old list no longer had working phone numbers or that were no longer around, that we decided to just start from scratch.

The resulting list will be linked to a map for ease of Nebraskans to find someone local to harvest their trees and make something from them. When you enter your information you can stipulate how far you will travel from your base location for jobs.

Here's the directory.

Here's the form to add your business.

Want to talk urban wood in general? Give Kim a call or drop an email (both at end of newsletter)

Utilization Events and Resources

Building up

We are working on Forestry Contractor/Industry

Workshops - please let me know of any specific topics you

would like to learn more about. Delimbers? Cut-to-length systems on a smaller scale? Exporting? General business? Or topics you want covered in Timber Talk. Contact info at bottom.

If we have a utilization industry, then land management costs go down, a resource is utilized, then the forest (resource), landowner and contractor get a better deal.

Different Products – New Markets

Ever have an idea for a wood product you haven't seen in production? Let's chat about it. Give Kim a call/email!

Looking to network? Help each other with ideas? We don't need to recreate the wheel. There are enough removals to grow the wood utilization space with more creators, more processors, more loggers....

Timber Sales

We are developing a webpage that would have sales and where hazardous fuels / forest stand improvement projects are occurring to facilitate the utilization of all material being removed from our forests. This would allow anyone with 1 tree to hundreds of acres to get the word out. Please email or call Kim to share your input on this effort. Timber Talk would continue to have formal timber sales listed.

A Tree's best life is when it's upright, green, and growing.

When that life is over, give it a 2nd life.

As a forest product.

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