

# ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT of Corrugated Packaging

U.S. corrugated industry's 2006-2014 life cycle assessment (LCA) shows notable environmental progress

The study tracked the environmental impact of corrugated products through 4 life cycle phases:



What was the progress between 2006-2014?

**35% REDUCTION**  
in GHG emissions

**29% REDUCTION**  
in eutrophication from nutrient discharge

**23% REDUCTION**  
in smog

**21% REDUCTION**  
in water use

**21% REDUCTION**  
in respiratory related effects

What drove the improvements?

1

Increased recovery rates of recycled fiber (OCC)  
72% (2006) → 89.5% (2014)

Led to reduced methane emissions from landfills.

2

Increased efficiencies in mill energy systems

Led to reduced greenhouse gas emissions and reduced reliance on fossil fuels

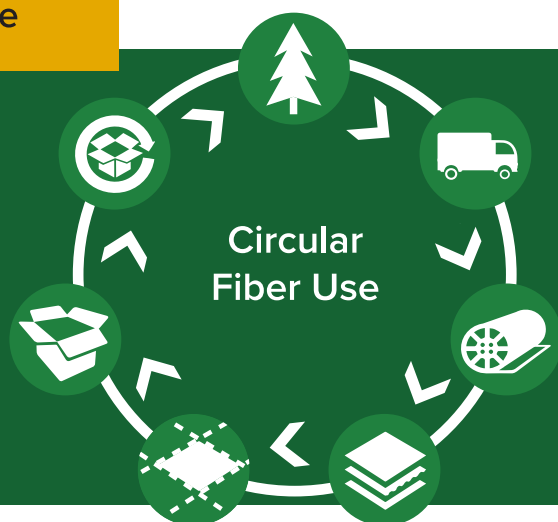
3

Increased use of low-impact fossil fuels including a switch from oil/coal to natural gas

Led to reduced greenhouse gas emissions

Corrugated packaging is circular by nature

Renewable, reusable, recyclable corrugated comes full circle, every day. From efficient use of managed forest lands to sustainable practices during board and box manufacture to high recovery rates that put fiber back into our system, corrugated packaging is truly circular by nature.



Learn more about corrugated packaging at [www.corrugated.org](http://www.corrugated.org).

