



# WALK GREEN<sup>TM</sup>

Hardwood Decking



# Decking

for the future



beautiful



durable



ecological

### How Our Decking Compares

#### To Redwood and Cedar

Most redwood and cedar available today is second-growth and less weather-resistant than it once was. Our hard, dense, rot-resistant exotic woods will outlast cedar and redwood by years or even decades.

#### To Pressure-Treated Wood

Tropical woods are naturally resistant to decay, unlike pressure-treated woods which are injected with chemical fungicides and insecticides like copper oxide.

#### To Composite Decking

Although tropical hardwoods are very long-weathering, they are natural materials that will eventually return to the earth and build soil for new growth. This is not the case for composite decking, which contains plastics that, while they may be recycled, cannot be recycled further and will pollute the environment after their useful life is over.

### Specs



**Kiln Dried** We kiln dry all of our decking. Drying is important to stabilize wood from undue twisting and cupping and to ensure the product arrives as ordered.

**Clear All-Heart** This ensures that your deck will be clear of imperfections. All decks are clear of defect on three sides. We allow minor visible defects on the bottom side.

**End Sealed** We seal the ends of all boards to stabilize them from undue end-splitting.

### Sizes

- 1.0" x 5.5" x 8'-18'
- 3/4" x 5.5" x 8'-18'
- 3/4" x 3.5" x 8'-18'

Walk Green decking ranges in length from 8 to 18 feet with odd and even lengths on 1-foot increments. These lengths are useful, functional, and maximize yield in the forest.

### Naturally Durable

Decades of trouble-free service



### Sustainably Harvested

For every tree that is selectively cut, many more trees are left standing

### Free of Chemicals

No potentially harmful chemical preservatives

### Certified FSC Pure

(By the Rainforest Alliance) Like certified organic food, but FSC certifies forests instead of farms

### LEED™ Compliant™ (MR 7)

Accepted by the top green building rating system

## FSC & LEED™ About

**The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)** is a nonprofit organization that sets standards for environmentally and socially responsible forest management worldwide. These standards in turn guide the certification of forests and forest products through a system of independent auditing. FSC enjoys the support of most major environmental groups, including **World Wildlife Fund**, **The Nature Conservancy**, **Greenpeace**, and the **Sierra Club**. **The Rainforest Alliance** is an international conservation organization that helped to found the FSC and is the world's leading FSC certifier. *FSC Pure* is the highest level of performance for a product within the FSC system. It means that 100% of the wood in a product line comes from forests managed to FSC's rigorous standards

**Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)** is a family of a green building rating systems that are administered by the nonprofit US Green Building Council. LEED rating systems exist for all types of commercial and residential construction, and LEED is the most widely accepted standard for environmentally responsible design and construction in North America. Walk Green decking is the natural choice for LEED and green building because it is FSC Pure, meaning that maximum value can be applied toward LEED's Certified Wood Credit (MR 7).







## Deforestation

Deforestation destroys an area of rainforest roughly the size of Washington State—about 70,000 square miles—every year!

## You Have a Choice

**Most people** are aware that rainforests are treasure troves of biological diversity and provide vital ecosystem services such as oxygen production, carbon sequestration, and the regulation of regional climate. And people are equally aware that rainforests are in peril—if deforestation rates in the tropics were to continue unabated, almost half of the vast Amazonian rainforest will be cleared by 2020 and the world's tropical rainforests will be wiped out completely by the end of this century.

**Given these facts**, it is understandable that people should be concerned about their use of tropical timber. However, leading conservation groups like Rainforest Alliance actually advocate its use, provided that it comes from well-managed forests that are certified by a trustworthy third party to the stringent standards of the FSC.



**“People wonder how you can save the rainforest** by logging it. For decades, rainforests have been cleared for farming, cattle ranching, and other economic reasons. But in more and more places, forests are being preserved because, through responsible timber harvesting and other sustainable uses of forest resources, they have become more valuable to local people standing than converted to other uses.”

– Richard Z. Donovan  
*Chief of Forestry, Rainforest Alliance*



### Illegal Logging

# About

**Illegal logging occurs all over the world** and is typically defined as extraction of trees in contravention of any state, foreign, or tribal law. Examples include timber theft, logging in a national park or protected area, or cutting trees without proper authorization from relevant agencies. According to the Environmental Investigation Agency, at least 10% of annual wood imports to the US are estimated to be of illegal origin. Illegal logging rates vary dramatically by exporting country; as much as 80% of some countries' wood products are thought to be illegally harvested.



In the decade from 1995 to 2005, it is estimated that 50% to 80% of the logging that took place in the Amazon was illegal.

## Avoid

illegally-harvested wood  
It's not just a good idea, it's the law!

If you buy illegally-harvested tropical wood—even without your knowledge—you are now breaking US law (the amended *Lacey Act*).

- ▶ **Criminal and civil penalties may apply**
- ▶ **The product can be seized**

You can manage your risk and limit liability by choosing wood that is legal—and there is no better assurance than FSC certification.







When you shop for the least expensive tropical hardwood decking, you may be inadvertently supporting illegal logging.



## Real Cost

Cheap tropical hardwoods and illegal logging go hand in hand.

Walk Green™ decking is priced very competitively with other decking products. And with FSC certification, you can be sure that your deck comes from forests held to a standard of management that is endorsed by the world's leading conservation organizations.

The least expensive way to harvest timber is to poach it illegally from the forest with no regard for the future. Producing timber responsibly and legally carries necessary costs:

- ▶ Sustainable forest management plans must be developed and implemented
- ▶ Generally permits must be obtained and taxes and duties paid
- ▶ Third-party certification and audits are need to assure consumers that forests are being properly managed

Illegal logging avoids all of these costs—at a lasting and devastating cost to people and the environment. When illegally-logged wood is mixed with legal wood in manufacturing or distribution, it becomes impossible to tell the two apart. According to the World Wildlife Fund, illegal wood depresses timber prices by as much as 15%.



## We Can Do It Together

Together, we can cover the costs of managing tropical forests responsibly so they will be here today, tomorrow—and always.

### For Biodiversity

Half of Earth's land-based species inhabit rainforests

### For Climatic Stability

Rainforests, "the world's lungs," sequester enormous amounts of CO<sub>2</sub>.

### For the Well-Being of Local People

Sustainable forestry can provide local people with livelihoods AND a healthy environment