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"Can You Believe it Comes from Trees" Exhibit at the Cradle of Forestry

Pisgah Forest, NC, 9/24/26: Take a look around you. You're likely surrounded by wood products! Maybe it's the table you're sitting at, or the beams in the walls, or maybe even the paper you're reading this on. It's no secret that wood, and the trees they come from, are an extremely valuable natural resource. However, there are many unexpected forest products that you may use that you never knew contained wood!

Cellulose, the powdered wood pulp obtained by chemical treatment and mechanical processing of natural renewable wood, is an organic fiber that is used in a wide variety of industries. In Ice cream and parmesan cheese, the cellulose provides stability for foods and is entirely safe to eat! Cellulose is also utilized in different toothpastes, paints, and gels.

The rosin from hard pines, like those found in Western North Carolina, is utilized in numerous different manufacturing processes. Notably, different types of ink use tree rosin, meaning both the paper and the ink printed on it are tree products! Tree rosin is also utilized to create some forms of chewing gum!

The number of useful things we get from trees and wood products is incredible, and if you want to learn more about unique forest products, visit the Project Learning Tree "Can You Believe it Comes from Trees" Exhibit at the Cradle of Forestry in America. Project Learning Tree is an initiative of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, and its work is to advance environmental education, forest literacy, and career pathways using trees and forests as windows on the world.

This interactive exhibit helps to convey just how much we depend on trees in our daily lives, and more specifically, which individual tree parts we can thank for them! Visitors can play a matching game where they try to organize the Tree Product Cards into the tree parts responsible for them, including wood, bark, cellulose, sap, fruits and seeds, leaves, and roots.

Stop by the Cradle of Forestry between 10 AM and 5 PM to see the exhibit located in the Discovery Center, and walk the three miles of paved trails at America's birthplace of forestry. The exhibit will be available to the public until November 13th, when the Cradle of Forestry closes for the winter.

Special thanks to Project Learning Tree and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative for allowing the Cradle of Forestry to showcase this unique exhibit.

For more information about this exhibit and other upcoming programs, visit www.gofindoutdoors.org.

About FIND Outdoors:

FIND Outdoors is a 501(c)(3) outdoor recreation nonprofit that centers forest education and stewardship. Based in Pisgah Forest, FIND Outdoors has been stewarding public lands for over 50 years, with a vision to create a lasting community of appreciation for the outdoors. Learn more about FIND and ways you can be involved at www.gofindoutdoors.org/about.

