

STATE OF MONTANA  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**  
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 12-2014

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EXECUTIVE ORDER TO PROMOTE USE OF MONTANA WOOD PRODUCTS

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WHEREAS, the State of Montana is dedicated to economic growth, community enhancement, and environmental conservation;

WHEREAS, Montana's forests provide many benefits, including clean air and water, climate mitigation, habitat for wildlife, valuable products that Montanans use every day, and employment for local communities;

WHEREAS, through my *Forest in Focus* Initiative, the State recognizes that our ability to manage and restore our forests for all the benefits they provide, relies on an integrated forest products industry;

WHEREAS, promoting markets for products from responsibly managed forests in the state will help conserve forests, protect jobs, and strengthen local communities;

WHEREAS, wood product manufacturing ranks first in the manufacturing sector in Montana in terms of jobs, contributing significantly to our state's economy;

WHEREAS, wood is widely recognized as a green building material; wood is produced naturally, is the only major building material that comes from a renewable resource, requires less energy to produce than other building materials, and stores carbon over its lifetime;

WHEREAS, the state has a strong commitment to high performance buildings that are energy and cost efficient and utilize regional materials and products that are extracted and manufactured within the region, thereby supporting the use of indigenous and renewable resources and reducing the environmental impacts resulting from transportation;

Now, therefore, I Governor Steve Bullock, Governor of Montana hereby order as follows:

1. The Montana Architecture and Engineering Division, in collaboration with other state agencies, shall endeavor to identify in the Long-Range Building Program at least one state construction project each biennium that can be improved by featuring wood products in the design and construction, both structurally and aesthetically, highlighting the use of wood products in state construction. Case studies will be conducted by the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation on identified projects to illustrate the economic and environmental benefits of using wood. Each case study will be presented to the Governor.

2. The construction of all new or expanded state-owned buildings shall consider the use of Montana wood products for structural and aesthetic purposes as well as look for opportunities to demonstrate the innovative use of Montana wood products as potential green building materials. Such considerations will be documented for each project. Cost effectiveness over the life cycle of the project must be considered when selecting materials.
3. The Montana Architecture and Engineering Division, in collaboration with other state agencies, shall look for viable opportunities on state-owned buildings that are newly constructed or are planning replacement of a thermal or combined heat and power energy system to consider installation of a wood energy system. Where determined to be viable, such considerations will be documented for each project. Cost effectiveness over the life cycle of the project must be considered when determining viability of wood energy applications.
4. The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, in collaboration with Montana Department of Commerce, Governor's Office of Economic Development and Montana Department of Agriculture, shall work to increase the market for and promotion of Montana wood products to new and existing domestic and international markets.
5. The State of Montana will institute an awards program to recognize the contribution (s) by an individual or entity to advance the utilization and/or promotion of Montana sourced wood products. The award will be presented by the Governor each year in October during Montana Forest Products Week.

This Order is effective October 17, 2014.



GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2014.

  
STEVE BULLOCK, Governor

ATTEST:  
  
Linda McCulloch, Secretary of State

For Linda  
McCulloch