



## 2019 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 39

May 8, 2019 - Introduced by Representatives KRUG, SHANKLAND, BALLWEG, CONSIDINE, DUCHOW, EDMING, FELZKOWSKI, FIELDS, MURPHY, MURSAU, PETRYK, ROHRKASTE, SPREITZER, SPIROS, STAFSHOLT, STEINEKE, STUCK, THIESFELDT, TRANEL and TUSLER, cosponsored by Senators TIFFANY, BEWLEY, COWLES, HANSEN, JACQUE, LARSON, LEMAHIEU, PETROWSKI, ROTH, SCHACHTNER, L. TAYLOR and TESTIN. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1     **Relating to:** proclaiming May 2019 as Paper and Forestry Products Month in  
2           Wisconsin.

3           Whereas, trees and Wisconsin's sustainable well-managed forests, both  
4     private and public, are the backbone supporting Wisconsin's valued way of life and  
5     the basis for the social, economic, and ecological well-being of Wisconsinites and the  
6     forest products industry; and

7           Whereas, Wisconsin's lumber and wood products industry predates the state  
8     and papermaking began in 1848, three months before Wisconsin became a state, and  
9     paper manufacturing has been a cornerstone of the state's economy for more than  
10    165 years, leading the nation in paper manufacturing for more than 60 years; and

11          Whereas, the logging, papermaking, and printing industries significantly  
12    contribute to Wisconsin's economic health and well-being by employing more than  
13    106,000 women and men in family-supporting jobs whose annual income exceeds  
14    \$6.4 billion; and

1           Whereas, the paper and forest products industries contribute an estimated  
2           \$238 million in state and local taxes; and

3           Whereas, Wisconsin produces a greater diversity of paper and wood products  
4           than any other state in the Union; and

5           Whereas, as 2019 has been declared by Governor Tony Evers as “The Year of  
6           Clean Drinking Water” and Speaker Robin Vos has established a “Water Quality  
7           Task Force,” Approximately two-thirds of the nation’s freshwater resources  
8           originate on forested lands, both public and private. Some 180 million people in over  
9           68,000 communities rely on these forested lands to capture and filter their drinking  
10          water; and

11          Whereas, thanks to sustainable forestry practices, Wisconsin forests are  
12          growing one and a half times more timber than is being harvested each year and  
13          there are more trees in forests throughout the United States than there were 100  
14          years ago; and

15          Whereas, the paper, pulp, forestry, and printing industries are sustainable,  
16          environmentally-conscious and are a major driver of Wisconsin’s economy; and

17          Whereas, Wisconsin’s nearly 17 million acres of forest lands and its millions of  
18          urban trees significantly enhance the quality of life in our great state, contribute to  
19          water quality, support and enhance soil quality, provide habitat and sustenance for  
20          terrestrial and aquatic flora and fauna, and offer four-season recreational and  
21          aesthetic opportunities to residents and visitors of all ages; now, therefore, be it

22                 ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the members of the  
23          Wisconsin State Legislature proclaim May 2019 as Paper and Forestry Products  
24          Month in Wisconsin and commend this observance to all citizens; and, be it further

1           **Resolved, That** the legislature calls upon our citizens to learn more about the  
2 important role the paper, forestry, and printing product sectors play in our economy  
3 and the environment; and, be it further

4           **Resolved, That** the assembly chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint  
5 resolution to the Council on Forestry, the Wisconsin Paper Discovery Center, the  
6 Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education at the College of Natural Resources  
7 at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, the Wisconsin River Papermaking  
8 Museum, the Wisconsin Paper Council, Centergy, the Great Lakes Timber  
9 Professionals Association, the USDA Forest Products Laboratory, Trees for  
10 Tomorrow, Quad/Graphics, WMC, the Wood Industry Collaborative, the Wisconsin  
11 County Forests Association, Wisconsin Woodland Owners, Wisconsin River  
12 Papermaking Museum, Federal Sustainable Forestry Committee, and the Lake  
13 States Lumber Association.

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**(END)**