

Pressure Treated Wood from the Western USA
for Marine, Commercial, Industrial & Residential Construction

Wood that Works, Wood that Lasts

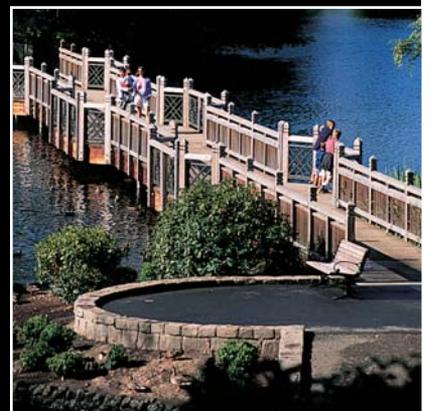


**Western Wood
Preservers Institute**





Pressure-treated western softwood species are ideally suited for constructing a multitude of commercial, industrial, recreational, residential and aquatic structures.





The Western Wood Preservers Institute (WWPI)

WWPI represents the pressure-treated wood industry in western North America. The Institute provides information, conducts research, and supports programs to assure the proper, safe and environmentally appropriate use of treated wood. Since 1947, the Institute has been assisting engineers, architects, specifiers, builders, government agencies, port authorities, exporters, importers and others interested in these products.

Pressure -Treated Western Wood

Pressure treatment preserves wood's structural soundness and significantly extends its service life by protecting it from natural predators. Coming from a renewable resource, wood is a plentiful and economical building material; however, it can be subject to attack from insects, micro-organisms, and decay-causing fungi. Untreated wood in contact with the ground or water may last from one to four years; whereas, pressure-treated wood can last decades in these conditions --- 30, 40, even 50 years or more. These products are a safe, sound investment that extends forest resources by ensuring a building project will last.

Douglas fir, Hem-Fir (a species combination of Western Hemlock and several of the true firs), and Ponderosa and Lodgepole pines are the most commonly treated western softwood species.

All WWPI Members produce treated wood products in accordance with American Wood-Preservers' Association (AWPA) Standards. The pressure-treatment process forces preservatives into wood cells in a closed cylinder, or retort, to provide protection for the wood against decay, fungi and insects. Due to their density and unique cell structure, Douglas fir and Hem-Fir must be incised (small slits are made on the surface of the wood) prior to treating in order to meet AWPA Standards. Different levels of chemical penetration and retention are used depending upon the intended building application.

Three general classifications of treatment are:

- **waterborne preservatives** such as ACZA (*Ammoniacal Copper Zinc Arsenate*), CCA (*Chromated Copper Arsenate*), ACQ (*Ammoniacal Copper Quat*), CC (*Ammoniacal Copper Citrate*), ACC (*Acid Copper Chromate*), and CBA-A (*Copper Azole*) which are excellent for interior and exterior applications in residential, commercial and industrial construction, and Boron preservatives for interior residential applications;
- **oil-borne preservatives** such as *pentachlorophenol* and *copper naphthenate* used for poles, posts, millwork, glulam beams, bridges and marine decking; and
- **creosote solutions** which are used for industrial poles, pilings, railroad ties.

Environmental Aspects

Products treated with EPA*-registered preservatives and used in accordance with EPA and industry-approved guidelines are ideally suited for the toughest industrial and commercial projects, yet safe for playground and garden structures, or for installation in ecologically sensitive aquatic and wetland environments.



* United States Environmental Protection Agency



WWPI Member products are produced using only EPA-registered preservatives applied under strict guidelines that meet all US building and treating code standards in order to assure user safety and environmental compatibility. WWPI and its Members also subscribe to *Best Management Practices*, to reduce potential for migration of any treating chemicals into the environment, and to the American Lumber Standard Committee's *Treated Wood Program* for quality assurance.

Applications for Pressure-Treated Wood

Preservative pressure-treated wood provides long-lived durability in situations where structural or decorative wood members are subject to potential attack from insects or fungi in circumstances such as:

- buried or in contact with the ground,
- submerged or in contact with water, or
- exposed to conditions of constant wetting and drying.

While building codes vary throughout the world, as do local and regional requirements for the use of treated wood, all US model building codes now require preservative pressure treatment for any wood used in contact with soil or masonry. In addition, certain preservative treatments may provide protection for wood exposed to corrosive or chemical action.

Aquatic Installations

Experience has shown that wood is one of the best materials for construction in and around aquatic environments. It is resilient enough to withstand battering by the ocean and ships, yet naturally resistant to the destructive forces of salt water. Wood doesn't rust or spall and is significantly less affected by corrosion than are other materials.

With its additional benefits of protection against decay-causing fungi and local wood-destroying marine organisms, properly treated wood assures safe, decay-resistant, long-life performance in both fresh and saltwater installations.

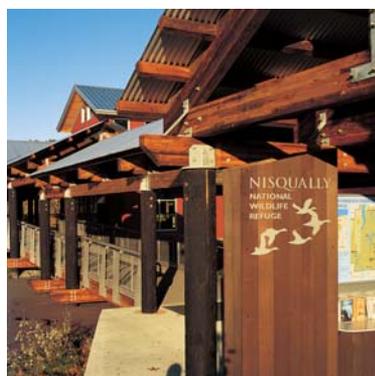
WWPI and its Members are committed to the protection of water resources and the ecological diversity supported by lakes, streams, estuaries, bays and wetlands. To this end, WWPI has developed and encourages the use of **Best Management Practices** (BMPs). These BMPs help to assure products are manufactured in a manner that minimizes the potential for any migration of treating chemicals into the environment and the potential for any adverse impacts on ecological systems.

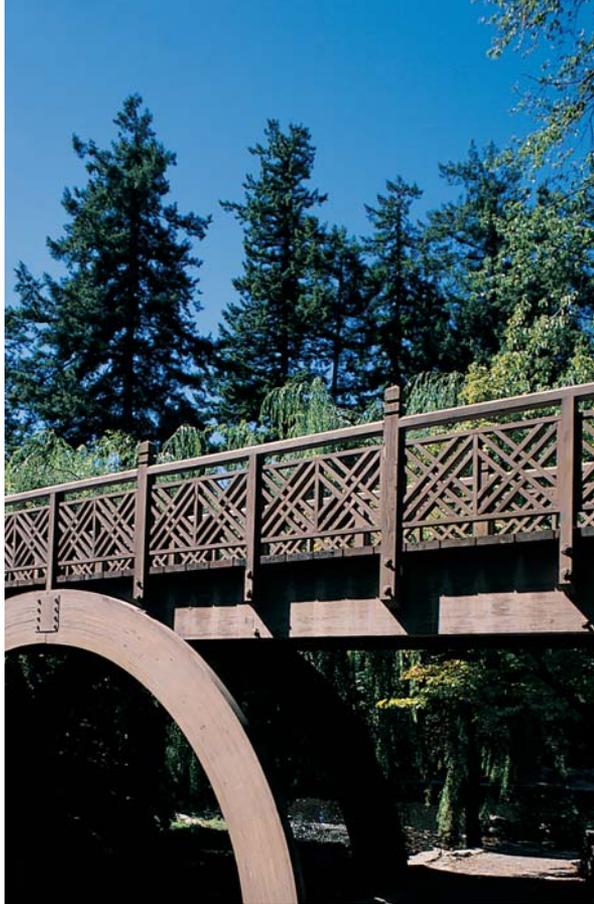
Products intended for aquatic installations that are treated in accordance with BMPs are identified with the following logo on their quality mark:



Fire-Retardant Treated Products

WWPI members also produce fire-retardant treated (FRT) products. Fire-retardant treated wood offers designers an attractive and safe alternative to steel and concrete. These treatments provide protection from a fire source without reliance on water pressure, electrical sensors or relays that might fail to activate fire suppression systems.





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For additional information and technical assistance, contact:



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