Student Activity Sheet
Trees: The Renewable Resource Module

1.   Name two renewable natural resources mentioned in the module.

2.   Name three non-renewable natural resources mentioned in the module.

3.   What is regeneration?

4.   Name three ways that trees can grow back following a harvest. Which grows fastest and why?

5.   List and explain five things we can do to be good stewards of our forests and other natural resources.

6.   Do we need to think about growing a new forest before we harvest the existing one? Why or why not?

7.   List five products that are made from trees.

8.   Name three benefits of trees and forests that you learned from this module.

Teacher Answer Sheet
Trees: The Renewable Resource Module

1. Name two renewable natural resources mentioned in the module.

   Answer: Trees, fish, and cattle were all mentioned in the module.

2. Name three non-renewable natural resources mentioned in the module.

   Answer: Coal, minerals, and oil were all mentioned in the module.

3. What is regeneration?

   Answer: Regeneration occurs when trees grow back following harvest.

4. Name three ways that trees can grow back following a harvest. Which grows fastest and why?

   Answer: Following harvest, trees grow back from stump sprouts or seed. They can also be planted. Stump sprouts grow fastest, because they are able to obtain water and nutrients using the well-developed root system of the original tree.

5. List and explain five things we can do to be good stewards of our forests and other natural resources.

   Answer:

   1) Harvest the forest to remove mature, unhealthy or poorly formed trees and insure a healthy, productive forest.

   2) Avoid harmful practices like high-grading, where all the best trees are harvested and the poor quality trees are left behind.

   3) Maintaining forest buffers along streams to help keep sediment from harvesting operations or chemicals and sediment from suburban or agricultural areas from reaching the water through surface runoff.

   4) Maintain forest buffers along streams to cool the water for fish and insect life.

   5) Maintain different ages and types of forests to provide habitat for different wildlife species.

6) Use ditches and grass seed to keep water from eroding trails left by timber harvesting equipment after work is completed.

7) Keep cattle out of the hardwood forests to protect forest regeneration, reduce soil compaction, and prevent the possibility of damaging tree roots.

8) Work with a trained forester to accomplish objectives and goals.

6.   Do we need to think about growing a new forest before we harvest the existing one? Why or why not?

Answer. Yes. We must start planning to regenerate a new forest before a mature forest is harvested. This will help insure that trees remain a renewable resource. (Planning for regeneration prior to harvest allows landowners to make sure that they establish the type and quantity of regeneration they need. For example, there are different types of harvesting practices that will favor different species and quantities of trees, or will encourage regeneration if there isn't any present).

7.   List five products that are made from trees.

Answer: Notebook paper, baseball cards, lumber, pencils, furniture, and books were mentioned in the module. Students may also list a number of other products that they have learned in class.

8.   Name three benefits of trees and forests that you learned from this module.

Answer:

1) Trees are a renewable natural resource.

2) Forest buffers along streams help keep the water cool.

3) Forest buffers keep sediment from harvesting operations or chemicals from suburban or agricultural areas from reaching the water through surface runoff.

4) Forests provide habitat for wildlife.

5) Trees are useful for many forest products.

6) We use trails for walking, hiking, hunting, and bicycling.

7) Trees provide fuel for fires for warmth and for the construction of shelter.