

River Quest 2018

Synopsis, Resource Links, and Vocabulary List

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Synopsis:

Efficient Industrial Water Use - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!

A large pulp and paper mill such as Sappi in Cloquet uses large amounts of water each day. Millions of gallons of water are brought into the mill from the St. Louis River and Lake Superior, but where does all of this water go? The answer: almost 97% of the water is returned to the River! Reducing the water usage at Sappi has been a working project for almost the last decade. From 2005-2013 Sappi has worked to reduce its specific water use by > 25%. Sappi is proud of the water efficiency that has been achieved, and is continuing to work toward further reduction.

The Sappi logo consists of the word "sappi" in a bold, blue, lowercase sans-serif font.

Reference Material Links:

AF&PA recycling website: <http://www.paperrecycles.org/>

DNR: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/watersheds/index.html>

MPCA, Living Green-Educators: www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/living-green/living-green-educators/educators.html

MPCA, Water: <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/water/index.html>

Sappi North America: <http://www.na.sappi.com/home>,

Sappi EQ Microsite: <http://www.na.sappi.com/eQ/index.html>

World Business Council for Sustainable Development: <http://www.wbcsd.org/home.aspx>

Vocabulary List:

Clarification – process of cleaning water by allowing solids to settle out with aid of chemicals

Coagulant – chemical that aids settling by making small particles stick together

Consumption – water not returned directly to river (water in paper and evaporation)

Ecosystem – a biological environment consisting of all living organisms in an area

Efficiency – amount of water necessary to make paper

Effluent – treated water returned to the river everyday by WLSSD

Flocculant – settling aid added after coagulant to form even larger particles

Influent – water drawn into the mill everyday

Reduction – making more paper with less water

Sustainability – balancing water use (and other environmental resources) with production

Watershed – the area that is drained by a given channel or network of streams