

IMPROVEMENTS BY THE NUMBERS



Georgia-Pacific has spent a total of \$250 million to upgrade the Palatka mill over the last decade. The majority of the spending, \$200 million, was for environmentally beneficial manufacturing process upgrades that improved effluent water quality. These improvements have not only turned the mill's pulp washing and bleaching system into a state-of-the-art operation, but they have also had a significant impact on restoring Rice Creek and the St. Johns River.

40% reduction of effluent water volume in the past decade

- ◆ The mill uses 500-700 million gallons of water at any given time. Thanks to recycling and reuse, only 4% of the water used in operations is discharged daily.

99.9% of the effluent volume is water

- ◆ The plant treats effluent for 60 days in biological treatment ponds before discharging.

75% reduction in phosphorous discharges*

59% reduction in nitrogen discharges*

Only 0.5% of the nutrient material entering the St. Johns River comes from the mill's treated effluent

- ◆ The remaining 99.5% comes from other point source dischargers such as wastewater treatment plants and non-point source dischargers (i.e., farms and residential users).

40% decrease in water consumption since 1998

90% less dependency on groundwater since 1998

- ◆ Achieved partly through \$5 million investment in a 90 million gallon storage basin which stores enough excess rainwater to operate the mill for 4 days without utilizing groundwater.



* 1997/1998 baseline



Georgia-Pacific