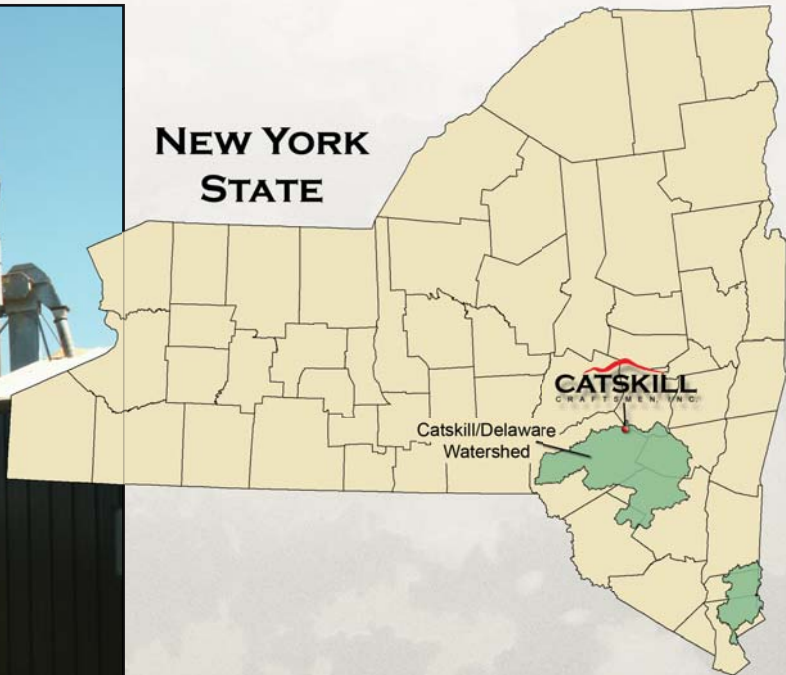




Catskill Craftsmen V.P. Kenneth Smith & President Duncan Axtell stand in front of the Pellet Mill in Stamford, NY.



CATSKILL CRAFTSMEN & ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Before most companies became environmentally conscious, Catskill Craftsmen began changing the way it did business. With a factory located at the headwaters of the Delaware River and within the one million-acre watershed for New York City, Catskill Craftsmen has a vested interest in protecting natural resources by reducing the amount of waste produced from our manufacturing process.

In 1994, Catskill Craftsmen built a Wood Pellet Mill on site that processes all of our waste wood into wood pellet fuel, used in pellet stoves. Since installation, the pellet plant can produce up to seven tons of pellets per day, effectively reducing wood waste from the Catskill Craftsmen plant to zero and supplying the local community with heating alternatives made from a renewable resource.

Catskill Craftsmen also partnered with a local non-profit group called the Watershed Agricultural Council in 1997. With help from the organization, Catskill Craftsmen installed air recirculation vents within the plant that help reduce the heating demands during the cold northeastern winters.



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This Page: Top Right - Collin Miller, Watershed Agricultural Council
Top Left - Watershed Agricultural Council Forestry Program
Opposite Page: Top - Tom Foulkrod, Watershed Agricultural Council
Bottom: Heather Hilson, Watershed Agricultural Council



*Mount Utsayantha in Stamford, NY
The scenic backdrop for Catskill Craftsmen's Headquarters.*

With forests blanketing over 75% of the Catskills Region, Catskill Craftsmen supports the Watershed Agricultural Council's focus on educating and demonstrating the role of forests in protecting watersheds. Through forest stewardship planning, research, and using voluntary practices to limit non-point source pollution. These partnerships encourage a healthy watershed while improving economic conditions for rural communities within the Catskills Region. To learn more about our watershed, visit www.nycwatershed.org.

In the Catskills, over 250,000 acres of forestland are managed for multiple benefits such as superior water quality, wildlife habitat, recreation, and wood products. Therefore, Catskill Craftsmen

works with a regional network of lumber suppliers who support a Pure Catskills brand to make sure our hardwoods come from well-managed forests that meet regional watershed standards. For more information about the Pure Catskills brand visit www.catskillwoodnet.org.

As more information is released on climate change and the impacts of carbon dioxide emissions, it's becoming clear that using wood products from well-managed forests is better for the atmosphere than wood alternatives such as plastic and metal. Once trees are properly harvested and manufactured into cutting boards or furniture, the wood continues to store carbon throughout the life cycle of the product. This helps reduce the carbon footprint of an individual.



With proper forest stewardship at work, the same forests providing Catskill Craftsmen with raw materials also provide a natural filter for our air and water. As a company aware of our environmental impacts, Catskill Craftsmen supports the development of wind energy in the Catskill Mountain/Delaware County region. This should effectively help with the ever-increasing energy demand by utilizing naturally occurring wind currents that sweep continuously over the Catskill Mountain region.

As we move further into the twenty-first century, Catskill Craftsmen is committed to protecting and maintaining our local and global environment for future generations.

