



## ***Our Sustainability Practices***

*We strive for "zero-waste" and repurposing waste we might produce.* All our hardwood off-cuts go into storage, and are used to heat Justin's home in the winter with an efficient wood stove. We use our sawdust waste on the five acre farm property. One of our only emissions is electricity usage in the wood shop, but because we are in Bend, OR we are on a part of the grid which is proudly much below the national average for emissions.

Finishing is often the most environmentally impactful part of woodworking. We do NOT use spray finishes. We use a completely VOC-free hard-wax hand-rubbed finish. It's a hard-wax oil that is a 100% plant product... very hardy as well as healthy for both humans / environment.

*We source all of our wood from a hardwood supplier network in the pacific northwest.* They have very high standards for both selection and kiln drying processes.

*Our ash products (for the "white ash" and "charcoal" finishes) are from domestic ash trees, mostly on the eastern side of the USA.* Here's some information on the [sustainability of Ash](#). In the past few years, unfortunately, the Ash species has been decimated by the EAB (Emerald Ash Borer Beetle) which was accidentally imported on a container ship, probably decades ago. This means that many of the Ash products in the USA are from dead or downed trees that were killed by the beetle; the carbon capture of Ash trees is significant, and is stored in furniture for decades which is great for the environment.

Walnut is similar (although, thankfully, there is no walnut beetle at large) so it is also generally grown and harvested in the eastern regions of the USA. Learn more [here](#).

## ***Fernweh Woodworking Small Business Practices***

Cheaply made furniture often is not actually less expensive when you factor in the global cost to humans and the environment. Consumers are bombarded with opportunities to purchase cheap furniture manufactured by companies built on underpaid, overseas human labor and environmental degradation. It is our vision to see transparency within the design world—where there are no hidden environmental and humanitarian costs.

When you buy hardwood furniture from small batch American producers you are paying up front the actual cost it takes to produce hand crafted, hardwood furniture of this quality. Our furniture (from the raw materials to the finished product) is fabricated by hand using skilled labor. We pride ourselves on providing jobs for woodworkers in the community while producing a high end product that is designed and built to last for years to come.