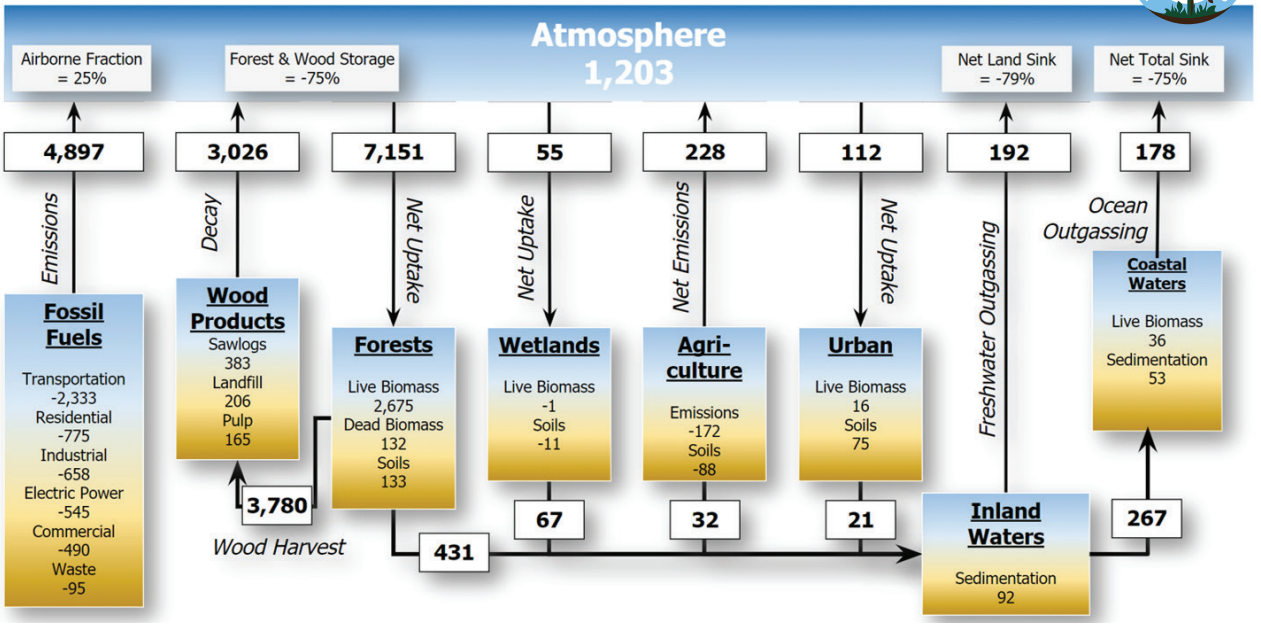
Major Components of Maine's Carbon Cycle



The budget illustration depicts the current state of the C cycle in Maine (all estimates are given as annual averages, in thousand metric tons of C per year, for 2007 to 2016). The synthesis of C flows through the various components represents the net effect of Maine's C cycle on the amount of GHGs in the atmosphere–or its contribution to the speeding-up or slowing down of climate warming. This budget analysis suggests that ~25% of the 4.9 MMTC/ yr emitted on average from fossil fuels in Maine is effectively contributed to the atmosphere (i.e., the "airborne fraction") after accounting for sources and sinks in the state's lands and waters. Using this full budget approach, Maine's net emissions are estimated to be approximately 1.2 MMTC/yr.

Source: Forest Climate Change Initiative, Center for Research on Sustainable Forests at the University of Maine.