



Leon Hood started in the timber business in 1980 by purchasing timber and utilizing contract loggers to harvest it. As his business began to grow, he decided to purchase logging equipment and start harvesting the timber himself. In 1985, with the help of his family, he opened Hood Timber Company. It has since become one of the largest timber harvesting companies in South Georgia.

Leon soon realized there was a large amount of unused by-products left in the woods. He decided to make these by-products useful and purchased a grinder. With this grinder, he was able to grind the by-products into landscaping materials. This was a very successful venture which led him to purchase a facility in Adel, GA in 1996. At this facility he was able to bag the product. He launched his own brand of landscaping materials, and so began Hood Landscaping Products.

Hood Landscaping Products soon began bagging for large stores such as Lowe's. With the growth of the company, Leon decided to purchase a second

facility in Nashville, GA in 2000. This helped to increase production and the company continued to grow. In 2015, he purchased a third bagging plant in Valdosta, GA, which became Hood Landscaping and Garden Products.

Leon also saw a need for transportation of his product. He purchased several tractor-trailers early on and began transporting the product himself. This cut cost significantly, saving on transportation. As his fleet grew, Hood Trucking Company was started. The company now runs 22 trucks full time.

Leon has seen success in all three business areas. He relies on his family for a lot of the day to day management of the businesses. His daughters, Kristy Joiner and Karen McCann, manage sales and marketing of Hood Landscaping Products. His wife, Jeanie Hood, is office manager. His son, John Hood, and his grandson, Joe Joiner, are both Georgia Master Timber Harvester certified and manage the timber business. Joe is also an active member of the Georgia Farm Bureau Forestry Committee. His grandson, Houston Joiner, manages the Valdosta Plant and his grandson, Chris Hood, manages the Adel plant. Jenna Hood, his granddaughter, manages the freight business. Leon says the success of his companies is because of good management and the help of his family.