



**T R E E S  
O N T A R I O**

*Planting tomorrow's forests*



# The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources' 50 Million Tree Program

In August 2007, Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty announced the province's commitment to plant 50 million trees by 2020 to help fight climate change and green the province. Ontario's commitment represents the biggest pledge in North America to the United Nations Billion Tree Campaign, whose goal is to plant one billion trees worldwide each year.

In the first phase of the program, the Ministry of Natural Resources is partnering with Trees Ontario to plant trees on rural private and public land across southern Ontario.

The goals of the program are to sequester carbon, enhance and diversify southern Ontario's landscape, increase the capacity to withstand climate change, and increase wildlife habitat.

The 50 Million Tree Program is designed to significantly reduce the costs to landowners of large-scale tree planting and thereby increase the number of trees planted across the province.

Trees Ontario is working with local tree planting agencies in Ontario, including regional conservation authorities, local Ontario Stewardship councils, forestry consultants and First Nations, to deliver the program. These agencies in turn work directly with landowners to determine site eligibility, allocate funding and coordinate planting.



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Charitable Registration Number: 898572862 RR0001

## Landowner and Site Requirements

For landowners to be eligible for funding, the potential planting area must be:

- At least two hectares (ha) in size and productive
- Open or mostly open land and not have been a woodland as defined by the Forestry Act for 10 years prior to this planting.



If accepted into the program, the landowner must:

- Sign a 15-year management agreement to maintain the trees
- Employ good forestry practices
- Contribute \$0.15 per tree towards initial establishment costs
- Assume some of the additional costs to implement the plan and maintain the trees.

## Planting Agency Requirements

The 50 Million Tree Program is available to planting agencies with a proven ability to deliver large-scale tree planting operations.

Approved planting agencies must:

- Prepare a detailed site plan for each property that is approved and signed by a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) or a member of good standing in the Ontario Professional Foresters Association (OPFA)
- Prescribe only native species (Norway spruce and European larch are acceptable)
  - No more than four species per hectare are permitted and planting density must be at least 1500 trees/ha and not greater than 2200 trees/ha
- Trees cannot be planted for the purpose of Christmas trees or landscape stock production.



## How to Apply

Interested landowners should contact their local planting agency to determine eligibility. Landowners can locate their local planting agency by visiting the Trees Ontario website: [www.treesontario.on.ca/partners](http://www.treesontario.on.ca/partners). Local planting agencies should contact Trees Ontario at 416.646.1193 or visit the website at [www.treesontario.ca](http://www.treesontario.ca).

