

TreeMail

Fall 2010

Donate Now



Dear Trees Ontario Supporter, Welcome to the Fall 2010 edition of TreeMail!

In a recent report, Ontario's Environmental Commissioner, Gordon Miller, stated that a minimum of 30% forest cover is required to maintain a healthy sustainable environment. In southern Ontario, forest cover is as low as 5 per cent in some areas. To achieve 30% forest cover we need to plant 1 billion trees. Already, the Government of Ontario has committed funding to plant 50 million trees by 2020. This is a great start, but millions more trees are needed – which is why Trees Ontario is reaching out to individuals and corporations in the province for their support.

With its partners, Trees Ontario is the largest, not-for-profit tree planting partnership in North America. We are committed to the re-greening of Ontario through a range of scientifically-based tree planting activities.

While we are proud of our accomplishments to date, we need to ensure that we continue to build on our successes and further increase tree planting levels. Our goal is to increase tree planting rates to 10 million trees a year. We need your help to ensure that this happens.

Help us save our environment. One tree at a time.

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Donate

Your health. Your environment. One tree at a time.



A clean, healthy environment helps to facilitate a healthier population. Climate change and poor air quality not only affect our planet, but they also take a significant toll on human health. You may be wondering how planting trees and human health are related? The answer is quite simple. Trees help to improve our air quality, lower temperatures and protect our fresh water sources, all of which have associated benefits for Ontarians. By supporting Trees Ontario's tree planting programs, you will help us accomplish the following:

- Reach our goal of planting over 10 million trees a year by 2015
- Make a substantial contribution to our environment and the health of all individuals in Ontario
- Create new habitat for wildlife and increased protection for our watersheds
- Help us reach needed levels of forest cover so that Ontarians have a sustainable ecosystem and a healthier populace

Your support, at any level, helps us plant more trees. Make a donation to Trees Ontario and help us improve the health of Ontarians, one tree at a time. [Donate now.](#)

Redeem your AIR MILES® reward miles to plant trees

Trees Ontario and [AIR MILES®](#) are working together to re-green the landscape. You can now use your reward miles to donate to Trees Ontario's tree planting efforts. When you redeem your reward miles to plant trees, you are helping to ensure that we are able to increase the number of trees that we plant each year, helping to improve the environment and re-establish forests. [Donate Now.](#)



Take Part in CAA's Autogreen Program and Support Trees Ontario

Trees Ontario and [CAA](#) are partnering again in support of [CAA's Autogreen program](#). By taking part in the Autogreen challenge, you will not only support the planting of a tree in Ontario, but you will also be eligible to win thousands of dollars in prizes!

This year's target is to support the planting of 20,000 trees which is equivalent to approximately 260,000 pounds of carbon offset. Take the challenge from October 1 to November 12, 2010 and further support Trees Ontario! [Take part.](#)



Auto
Insurance
Travel

Take Part

Upcoming Events and Activities

Trees Ontario will be attending and displaying at numerous events across Ontario this fall including the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, the A.D Latornell Conference and a series of winter landowner workshops. Check out our [online events calendar](#) for more information on upcoming events.



Get your free native tree seed kit: Trees Ontario and OPG join forces at the 88th edition of the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair

Join Trees Ontario and the [Ontario Power Generation](#) at this year's [Royal Agricultural Winter Fair](#), taking place November 5th-14th, and learn more about ways to reduce your environmental footprint, OPG's [biodiversity program](#) as well as Trees Ontario's [tree planting subsidy programs](#) such as the Ministry of Natural Resources' [50 Million Tree Program](#).

By visiting the booth over either weekend, you can look forward to obtaining your very own native tree seed kit, distributed by OPG, in partnership with Trees Ontario. You can then take the seed kit and plant your own tree at home! [Take Part](#).

ONTARIOPOWER
GENERATION



Learn More

Future Retirement Oasis and a Green Legacy Created by Trees Ontario Green Leader



Aaron Hughes, a Bradford resident and a Trees Ontario Green Leader, used the Ontario government's [50 Million Tree Program](#) to restore his family's 100-acre Burys Green property to the way it was 83 years ago and created a future retirement oasis for himself and his family. With the support of Trees Ontario, the lead delivery agent for the provincial government's program, and [Lands and Forests](#), the program's local tree planting partner, Aaron planted 5,000 white pines, 1,000 red maples and 1,000 red oaks. Aaron is excited that he has created a natural oasis for his family as well as a lasting legacy that can be passed onto his grandchildren and the community. [Learn more](#).

2010 Certified Seed Collector Workshops

Trees Ontario, the [Forest Gene Conservation Association](#) and other partners recently collaborated to conduct [Certified Seed Collector](#) workshops in Ontario. During two sets of 2-day workshops, participants learned about seed biology including information about forecasting, collecting, handling, processing and storing woody plant seeds. They were also trained in the science and logistics of

collecting and marketing seeds.

Gaining expertise in tree seed forecasting, identification and collection are critical to increasing tree planting rates in the province.

Congratulations to all participants who took and passed the exam and signed the Code of Ethics to become Certified Seed Collectors!



Fall 2010 Landowner Workshops



Trees Ontario, the [Ontario Forestry Association](#) (OFA), OPG and select partners, recently hosted a successful series of six free [landowner workshops](#) across the province. Landowners learned about the tree planting techniques, ways to reduce the environmental footprint as well as programs and incentives available to landowners interested in planting trees including the [50 Million Tree Program](#) and the [Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program](#) (MFTIP).

A new series of landowner workshops is being planned for this winter. Stay tuned to the Trees Ontario website for details, dates and locations.

Minister of Natural Resources visits local 50MTP sites

On October 1, 2010 the Honourable Linda Jeffrey, Minister of Natural Resources, joined John Cary, Trees Ontario, Founding Chair and Robert H. Keen, RPF, Trees Ontario, a/CEO on a tour of several [50 Million Tree program](#) plantation sites. The minister also met with the local planting delivery agent, the [Toronto and Region Conservation Authority](#) and Bruce Sandford, a landowner who participated in the program.

The 50 Million Tree Program is part of the Ontario government's commitment to plant, in partnership with Trees Ontario, 50 million trees by 2020 to help fight climate change and to 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. [Learn more.](#)



Clock wise from left to right: Bruce Sanford, Landowner; Tom Hildebrand, Forester, TRCA; The Honourable Linda Jeffrey, Minister of Natural Resources; John Cary, Founding Chair, Trees Ontario; Robert H. Keen, RPF, a/CEO, Trees Ontario; Ron Wu-Winter, Forestry Technician, TRCA; Brian Swaile, Seed and Stock Coordinator, Trees Ontario.



The Minister looks on as Brian Swaile discusses White Pine cones with the group

The [Ontario Forestry Association](#) (OFA) has been a leader in forest education for over 60 years, providing great teaching resources for educators and the general public. In the fall of 2009, the OFA, [Tree Canada](#) and [Majesta](#) worked together to create a lesson plan that answered the age old question, “why do leaves change colour in the fall?” In Ontario, we are fortunate enough to have some of the most beautiful forests in the fall. As you drive around the province you cannot help but be amazed by the rainbow of reds and yellows amongst the coniferous green. Children are even more amazed by the changing colours of the leaves in the fall. Whether you are a student, teacher, parent or landowner, you may have been curious as to why these changes are occurring. [Focus on Forests](#) is a great resource that provides you with ways to learn about trees and forests. Focus on Forests gives teachers curriculum-linked resources that help get students outdoors to explore nature,” said Carla Grant, OFA’s Executive Director. Activities and lesson plans can be used to teach others about forest ecosystems, forest management, and the value of our most precious natural resource.



[Click here](#) to preview the “Hidden Colours of Leaves” lesson plan. Visit www.focusonforests.ca for more information and access to all of these great teaching resources.

The Tree of Knowledge - Did You Know?



Ron Thayer, Trees Ontario Field Advisor

To date, we have collected over 128 hectolitres of tree seeds in southwestern Ontario! All seeds have been distributed to the Ontario Tree Seed Plant in Angus, Ontario as well as various nurseries in the province. The resulting stock is available to our [planting agency partners](#) involved in Trees Ontario’s planting programs such as the [Ontario Forest Restoration Program](#) and the [50 Million Tree Program](#). In addition, we have sent seeds to private nurseries where they can be purchased and planted by anyone interested.

Some of the species of seeds collected include black cherry, white cedar, red oak, bur oak, shag hickory, bitternut hickory, white oak, green ash, swamp white oak, black walnut and butternut. These seeds have been collected by individuals who have become Certified Seed Collectors (CSC) by participating in Trees Ontario’s Certified Seed Collector workshops held in collaboration with the Forest Gene Conservation Association and other partners.

Stay tuned to our [online events calendar](#) for more information on upcoming seed collection workshops and events!

