

Forests Ontario's 50 Million Tree Program: Fact Sheet

- The 50 Million Tree Program (50 MTP) is an Ontario-based tree planting program run by not-for-profit charity, Forests Ontario.
- Starting in 2019, the 50 MTP receives funding from the Government of Canada, corporate sponsors and donors. The program was previously funded solely by the Government of Ontario.
- The 50 MTP reduces the cost of large-scale tree planting for land and property owners, leading to an increase in forest cover in Ontario.
- Forests Ontario has planted more than 27 million trees through the 50 Million Tree Program since 2008. In total, Forests Ontario and our its partners have planted almost 33 million trees through our various programs.
- Trees planted since the program began now sequester more than 21,000 tonnes of carbon annually.
- The forests planted to date under the 50 MTP now generate over \$83-million in annual ecosystem services such as pollination, recreation, athletics and water supply regulation.
- Forests Ontario works with more than 80 partners to deliver the 50 MTP. These partners include private tree nurseries, conservation authorities, stewardship groups, First Nations, forestry consultants and municipalities
- Trees are planted predominantly using tractors and machines, however, in many cases hand planting is necessary in tougher terrain or when underplanting.
- Landowners plant trees to improve wildlife habitat, connect forests, to leave a legacy for future generations, for recreation or to reap sustainable forest products.
- The 50 MTP supports more than 300 full-time seasonal jobs annually in Ontario.
- Forests Ontario stays accountable through our online reporting system that collects data on our seed sources, planting sites, and survival rates.
- Forests Ontario works with tree nurseries to grow tree seedlings up to four years in advance of planting; seed collection begins in some cases five years ahead of planting.
- For more information, or if you are wishing to plant trees, call us at **1.877.646.1193** or email Forests Ontario at info@forestsontario.ca.
- For media inquiries, please email mkettleborough@forestsontario.ca.

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