

Media Advisory

Attention: Community Calendar, Event Listing and News Editors

Plant Trees to Fight Climate Change!

Berwick Tree planting workshop to help local residents reduce property taxes and help fight climate change

(Berwick - Eastern Ontario) Trees Ontario and its partners, the Ontario Forestry Association (OFA) and the South Nation Conservation Authority will host a free workshop focused on incentive programs for planting trees, tree planting techniques and the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP) that can reduce property taxes by up to 75% on Tuesday, October 21 from 7 – 9 p.m.

Attendees will learn more about the Ministry of Natural Resources' incentive program called the 50 Million Tree Program. As part of its commitment to reduce the effects of climate change, the Ontario government has joined the United Nations Billion Tree Program and plans to plant 50 million trees by 2020.

WHAT: Free tree planting workshop to fight climate change and reduce landowner taxes

WHEN: Tuesday, October 21, from 7-9 p.m

WHERE: 15 Union Street, Berwick, Ontario (about 45 minutes southeast of Ottawa – see map below)

WHO: Trees Ontario, OFA and local partner the South Nation Conservation Authority

Space is limited and pre-registration is appreciated.

For more information and to register contact:

**Trees Ontario (toll free) 1 877 646 1193 or
info@treesontario.on.ca.**

Trees Ontario, working with its partners, is the largest, not-for-profit tree planting partnership in North America. It is committed to the re-greening of Ontario through a range of tree planting activities. Trees Ontario is also partnering with the Ministry of Natural Resources to help deliver the Ontario government's commitment to plant 50 million trees by 2020.

The goal of Trees Ontario is to restore the province's tree planting capacity, especially throughout southern Ontario on private lands, by providing funding and planning support for its tree planting partners. These include local Conservation Authorities, Ontario Stewardship Councils, municipal governments and community volunteer groups.



This past spring Trees Ontario, with its partners, planted over 2.4 million trees. Its goal is to increase tree planting to 10 million trees every year by 2015. Visit the Trees Ontario website at www.treesontario.on.ca.

*The **Ontario Forestry Association (OFA)** is a non-profit, registered charity. It is dedicated to raising awareness and understanding of all aspects of Ontario's forests, and to develop commitment to stewardship of forest ecosystems. The OFA has been involved in public education around forestry and environmental issues since the 1940s. Over the years they have been involved in major initiatives involving restoration, commemoration and the management of our forests and natural environment. To this day, they continue to increase public education and knowledge of forestry and environmental issues. Visit the OFA website at www.oforest.on.ca.*

In August 2007, the Ontario government introduced a program to fund the planting of 50 million trees across the province by 2020, as part of its commitment to help fight climate change and green the province.

*The **50 Million Tree Program** is Ontario's commitment to the United Nations Billion Tree Campaign.*

All kinds of good can come from setting this goal: like offsetting carbon; diversifying Ontario's landscape; moderating local climates by providing shade, moderating temperature extremes and reducing the effects of storms; creating more habitats for wildlife; improving soil and water conservation; and boosting local economic opportunities – to name just a few.

The 50 Million Tree Program can significantly cut landowners' costs of large-scale tree planting and boost the number of trees planted.

Working with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, and its tree-planting partners, Trees Ontario will plant two million trees over the next year as part of this program.



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