

Tree Planting Help for Farmers and Property in Renfrew Watershed

Landowners in Renfrew County plan to plant tens of thousands of trees this spring in partnership with Forests Ontario

Renfrew, ON [Feb. 6, 2020] – An ambitious tree planting program that has helped put more than 1.2 million trees in the ground in Renfrew County is now easier for property owners to access.

“The 50 Million Tree Program (50 MTP) is better and more accessible than ever,” said Rob Keen, Registered Professional Forester and CEO of Forests Ontario. “The new, expanded criteria open the program to more land and property owners, meaning more trees in the ground. It’s a win-win for landowners, who save on tree planting costs, and for the environment.”

Forests Ontario has facilitated the planting of more than 29 million trees through the 50 MTP since 2008. Landowners have put in orders to plant tens of thousands more seedlings in Renfrew County in the spring of 2020.

Forests Ontario is the leading non-profit organization dedicated to the delivery of high-quality, large-scale tree planting programs. Forests Ontario has worked with more than 5,000 landowners to plant trees under the 50 MTP, yielding 16,500 hectares of new forest that sequester over 22,000 tonnes of carbon annually. The 50 MTP supports about 300 full-time, seasonal forest sector jobs.

Landowners may be eligible for the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP), which can help reduce property taxes by up to 75 per cent, after tree planting on their properties. Increasing forest cover promotes healthy natural landscapes. Trees can reduce the risk of severe flooding by soaking up excess water.

Last year, the Government of Canada committed up to \$15 million over four years to support the 50 MTP. Funding also comes from corporate sponsors and donors.

Visit www.forestsontario.ca to apply for the program.

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About Forests Ontario

Forests Ontario is a not-for-profit charity dedicated to re-greening the province through the support of forest restoration, stewardship, education and awareness. We promote Canada’s greatest natural resource – our forests – because healthy forests sustain

healthy communities and healthy economies. Forests Ontario is the voice of our forests. Visit www.forestsontario.ca or follow us @Forests_Ontario to find out more.

For more information, photos, or to arrange an interview please contact:

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