



MAPLE LEAVES
FOREVER

Spring 2023 News

- A message from our Executive Director
 - Maple Tree Rebate Program
- Forestry Education Award for Ken Jewett
 - Ontario Envirothon 2023
 - Introducing Teri Hoang
- Landscape Ontario Congress 2023
- Nursery Profile - Pine Corner Tree Farm
 - Spring Maple Planting and Care

Spring Update from our Executive Director, Deb Pella Keen



Maples Herald Sweet Spring

Native Maple trees figure prominently in the passage of winter to spring in Ontario and other parts of Canada. It is when the season transitions to cooler nights and warmer days and maple sap starts flowing through sugar bushes and keeping syrup producers across Ontario happy.

This spring, I have come across many small scale home grown operations, including our own '8 tap' operation in our maple bush in Huntsville. It may be the local food production movement or a carryover from pandemic days where people were staying close to home and looking for activities but it seems there are more and more people investing in back yard operations.



Maple syrup festival time is also a time when many Canadians plan to visit a sugar to home to see how it is done commercially or for education purposes. You can find information on places to visit at

todoontario.com/maple-festivals/ or here on StratfordToday.com.



For more information on tapping maples for maple syrup, please see the following links:

- OntarioMaple.com
- [How to identify and properly tap a maple tree \(OntarioMaple.com\)](#)
- [A beginners guide to creating maple syrup \(OntarioMaple.com\)](#)
- [About Canadian Maple Syrup - from Agriculture and Agrifood Canada \[PDF\]](#)



Happy Sweet Spring!

Deb Pella Keen and the MLF Team

MLF News

Maple Tree Rebate Applications are now open for Spring Planting!

25% Rebate

on eligible purchases of Native Maple Trees
from our Nursery Partners



Plant native Canadian
maple trees this spring!



MAPLE LEAVES
FOREVER

Visit MapleLeavesForever.ca
to learn more and apply

Follow Us for year-round tree care tips



Visit mapleleavesforever.ca/apply to review the qualifications and submit your application.

Try our new "[Am I Qualified](#)" quick survey to check your eligibility before submitting an application form!

Trees must be planted by **May 15** for bare root stock, and by **June 15** for balled & burlapped and container stock.

FIND OUT MORE

Ken Jewett honoured with Forestry Education Award



Recently, MLF Founder Ken Jewett was the proud recipient of Forests Ontario's Susan Wiecek Forestry Education Award. The award was presented by Forests Ontario CEO Rob Keen at the 2023 Forests Ontario Conference in Alliston, Ontario on Friday, February 17th, 2023.

The award is presented annually to an individual or organization which has made outstanding contributions to forest education.

Well deserved congratulations, Ken!



Maple Leaves Forever is proud to sponsor Ontario Envirothon, an annual initiative that provides students with hands-on experience with forests, soils, wildlife, and aquatic ecosystems. Team-based activities are designed to develop critical thinking, problem solving, teamwork, leadership, and communication skills. The program challenges students to showcase their environmental knowledge for a chance advance to the provincial competition.

The theme of this year's activities is SPECIES AT RISK.

Upcoming Dates:

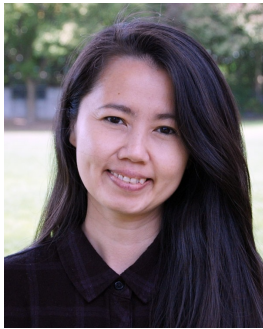
April 28, 2023 - Regional iNat Challenges end, proof of completion must be submitted to count towards weighted provincial draw

May 29 to 31, 2023 - Virtual Provincial Competition

Find out more about Ontario Envirothon, hosted by Forests Ontario, at:

forestsontario.ca/en/program/ontario-envirothon

Introducing new MLF team member Teri Hoang



Teri joined the MLF team recently as part of the Forests Ontario staff who monitor and process our maple tree rebate applications, alongside Allison Hands.

Teri Hoang's passion for forestry grew from admiring the natural areas within Toronto, where she grew up, along with travelling to and camping in provincial parks. Through volunteering and increased contact with the natural world, Teri decided that she wanted to pursue forestry as a career and completed a Master of Forest Conservation (MFC) at the University of Toronto. She now enjoys her role at Forests Ontario, bringing awareness to sustainable forestry and forest values, along with her interest in working to increase forest cover and health. In her spare time Teri can be found walking the trails and exploring nature in the city.

Nursery News

Nursery Partner Spotlight:



Jack and Diana Vos have been the proud owners of Pine Corner Tree Farm for 34 years and counting. In 1989, they moved to Moorefield with four young children and purchased the farm which then had only two kinds of trees on it (pines being the most prevalent). They have since expanded and now grow over forty different varieties of deciduous and coniferous trees.

When customers began asking for their trees to be planted, the Jack and Diana started a landscaping business. This successful enterprise lead to other services and products, such as interlocking brick installation, retaining walls, waterfalls, ponds, rocks, fencing, drainage erosion control, and hydro seeding. Jack and Diana pride themselves on their service and quality of trees and workmanship.

MLF: What made you want to be in the nursery/plant growing business? What is your favourite part of your work?

D: We have a Green Thumb in both our families! I always enjoy talking with customers and hearing there stories about trees and life, and showing them quality trees.

MLF: What does the native Canadian Maple tree mean to you?

DV: I'm proud to be Canadian and I love the Sugar maple, especially the fall colors.

MLF: Pine Corner is one of Maple Leaves Forever's most referring nurseries, with over 20 maple tree rebate referrals in the last three years. Is there anything you would like your customers or potential customers to know about your nursery operation?

DV: We are a family-run business and offer quality workmanship

Check out Pine Corner Tree Farm:

[7016 Wellington Road 109, Moorefield, ON](https://www.pinecorner2@gmail.com)

Phone: [519-638-2734](tel:519-638-2734)

Email: pinecorner2@gmail.com



Some of our MLF team visited Diana at Pine Corner Tree Farm earlier this month. Pictured above: MLF Executive Director Deb Pella Keen, Diana Vos of Pine Corner Tree Farm, and Caitlin Ayling, MLF Nursery Liaison.



Diana Vos showed us her poster with MLF Founder Ken Jewett!



Connecting with our Nursery Partners at LO Congress

Deb, Mary and Caitlin of the MLF Team attended the 50th Annual Landscape Ontario Congress in January. It was such a pleasure to connect with some of our nursery partners in person for the first time in years!

Pictured below (Clockwise from top left): Visiting with Pineneedle Farms' Paul Richardson; Alex Verbinnen; Nick Winkelmolen; Uxbridge Nurseries; Sloan's Travis Van Middelkoop; Verbinnen's Nursery.



Maple Care and Planting

~ SPRING ~

April

- [Apply for your Thank You Rebate](#) from Maple Leaves Forever (spring application deadline is May 15 – but you will get better selection if you apply and order your trees early!)
- pick up trees at nursery or take delivery of trees from nursery
- take care to properly [transport and deliver](#) your native maples prior to planting
- [new planting](#) – plant when soil conditions are favourable
- check for [Spongy Moth \(formerly known as Gypsy Moth\) egg masses](#)! Egg masses can be destroyed until the end of April
- [water](#) deeply and thoroughly; [add mulch](#)
- [stake](#) newly planted trees, if necessary
- prepare a plan for watering the trees through the growing season
- established plantings – [add or replace mulch](#) and clear surrounding weeds
- remove stakes from trees that have been staked for two or more years.

May

- [new plantings](#) – [stake](#), [water thoroughly](#), [add mulch](#) & clear surrounding weeds
- [water as needed](#), frequency & duration will increase in dry conditions
- fertilize established but not newly planted trees
- monitor for presence of insects or other pests

Late May or when leaves have fully formed

- monitor the development of new growth & if necessary re-establish terminal leader
- remove (prune) any basal sprouts that may be present – prune to soil line
- [check for seeds on mature red, red/silver hybrid and silver maples if interested in harvesting](#) or know of others interested in collecting these varieties of maple seed (Seed matures in late May/early June)

[View our online MAPLE CARE CALENDAR](#)

for more details, year-round maple care & planting advice

How can you help?

TELL A FRIEND!

If you recently received our Thank You Rebate, or you find our tree care information helpful – please share this email with your contacts and encourage them to plant native Canadian maples too!

SHARE YOUR MAPLE PHOTOS

We love seeing photos and stories about your maple plantings – please



email them
to info@mapleleavesforever.ca.

Why did I get this email?

We've put together this email news list to inform, update and remind our subsidy applicants, nursery partners, and anyone else who might be interested in our activities and encourage the planting and ongoing care of more native maples in rural Ontario!

We only send 4 emails a year, in Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall. You can | [unsubscribe](#) from these mailings at any time. No hard feelings.



Maple Leaves Forever

160 Thermos Road, M1L 4W2, Toronto

Email: info@mapleleavesforever.ca

Toll-Free Voicemail: [1 \(888\) 223-9181](tel:18882239181)

Website: www.mapleleavesforever.ca

This email was sent
to {{contact.EMAIL}}

You've received this email because
you've subscribed to our newsletter.

[Unsubscribe](#)