



MAPLE LEAVES
FOREVER

Summer 2023 News

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Summer Update from our Executive Director, Deb Pella Keen



The recent rain in Central Ontario was a welcome respite from the heat and unprecedented smoke we have been experiencing throughout Quebec, Ontario and parts of the United States. It is very important to keep watering any newly planted trees and we hope you will find our summer care tips helpful.

Maple Leaves Forever has launched an [honour roll list](#) of municipalities and planting agencies such as Conservation Authorities and non-profits who have committed to plant only **native maple trees** when one of their planting projects call for a maple tree. Check the current list below and if you do not see your municipality or favourite planting agency listed please encourage them to make a pledge to MLF to plant only native maples so they too can join our honour roll!

Our website mapleleavesforever.ca has been refreshed this spring and we hope you like the new format. Kudos go to Mary Bella, our Marketing Manager who took on this important project of renewal!

Finally, a congratulations to the winning Ontario Envirothon teams, a program of Forests Ontario that we proudly sponsor! These students are truly inspirational leaders and I am sure through their dedication and interest in the environment will help the world be a better place!

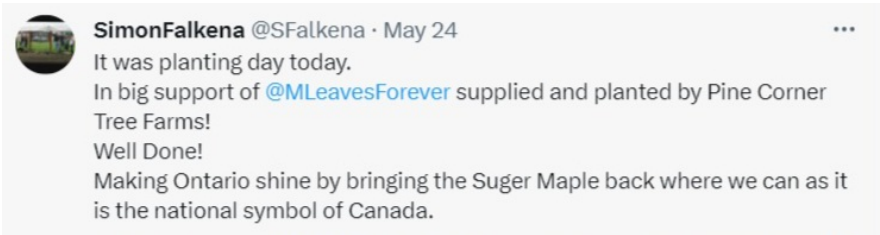
Have a great summer!

MLF News

MLF Spring Planting Update

We're proud to announce that Maple Leaves Forever supported the planting of 623 native Canadian maple trees this past Spring, bringing our total number of maples sponsored to 133,443 over the past two decades! That's equivalent to 1228 kms (763 miles) of maple lined Ontario roadside, more than the driving distance from Thunder Bay to Parry Sound!

A happy rebate applicant tweets:



SimonFalkena @SFalkena · May 24
It was planting day today.
In big support of @MLeavesForever supplied and planted by Pine Corner Tree Farms!
Well Done!
Making Ontario shine by bringing the Sugar Maple back where we can as it is the national symbol of Canada.



If you applied and received a MLF planting rebate this year or in years past, we'd love to hear from you and see photos of your native maples!

Introducing our Community Honour Roll



The City of Ottawa



Municipality of Clarington



Forests Ontario



Municipality of Collingwood
(April 2023)



Nottawasaga Valley
Conservation Authority (April
2023)

Maple Leaves Forever is pleased to recognize the above municipalities and planting agencies for their commitment to planting native maple trees.

We encourage municipalities and planting agencies throughout Ontario and Canada to make the following resolution:

"We/Municipality/Agency recognize the importance of the native maple tree, Canada's arboreal emblem, and we commit to always plant native maples whenever a maple is called for in any planting projects."

As more agencies and municipalities make this commitment, we will [post about them](#) and add them to our [new Community Honour Roll page](#).



June is a great time to GIVE!

There are still a couple more days to join the great Canadian Giving Challenge hosted by Canada Helps. Every dollar donated online to Maple Leaves Forever up to June 30, gives us a chance to win \$20,000 to sponsor native maple planting and educate the public on the care and planting of these majestic trees. And, by donating online you receive an automatic charitable tax receipt sent almost immediately to your email address!

Donate Today!



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.

The theme of this year's activities was SPECIES AT RISK. There were 7 in-person regional events, from which 19 teams went on to compete in the virtual provincial competition hosted by Forests Ontario May 29 to 31.

Congratulations to the 2023 Winners!
1st Place: Markville Secondary School in Markham
2nd Place: University of Toronto Schools
3rd Place: Elliot Lake Secondary School

Watch the winners announcement video on [YouTube](#).

Find out more about Ontario Envirothon at:



Nursery News

Nursery Partner Spotlight:



Harbers Greenhouses and Forestry is the latest Nursery Partner to join the Maple Leaves Forever program! Owner Tyler Harbers tells us about their operation:

Harbers Greenhouses and Forestry began in 2017, at the time focusing primarily on hanging baskets and perennials for the local wholesale market. Since then we have grown and shifted to focusing on native species, primarily trees and shrubs for conservation efforts as well as rural and urban landowners. We prioritize growing with locally sourced seed and rely on a fantastic network of friends, family members, and colleagues to help us collect and plant nearly 15,000 trees with a new greenhouse expansion soon to bring us closer to 80,000 trees annually. We grow and sell native species from 1 year old reforestation plugs, all the way to 45 gallon container trees for landscape and construction projects.

MLF: What made you want to be in the nursery/plant growing business?

Being in the nursery and greenhouse business has been a lifelong goal for me, and with the help of an incredibly supportive network of friends and family my wife and I have been able to make that dream come true. The satisfaction of growing thousands of healthy trees every year that keep our region diverse and healthy from an ecological standpoint is what drives us to continually grow our business.

MLF: What is your favourite part of your work?

First startup of the greenhouse in February. It is always exciting to melt the snow off the greenhouses and start planting, contrasting the stark winter weather of Eastern Ontario with the green of emerging seedlings of maple, oak, and hickory!

MLF: Do you have a favourite tree/plant? Why is it your favourite?

Hands-down favourite tree is a shagbark hickory, mostly because it requires so much patience to grow a shagbark hickory from seed through to a saleable size and because they are so uncommon in our area but are so important to the ecology of Ontario's forests.

Harbers Greenhouses and Forestry

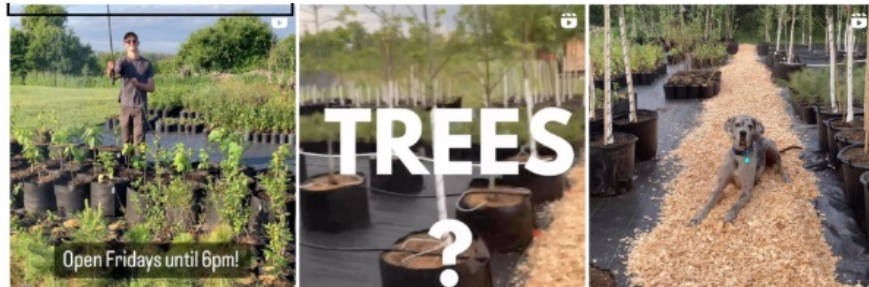
www.harbersgreenhouses.com

[4229 County Rd. 11, Chesterville ON K0C 1H0](https://www.google.com/maps/place/4229+County+Rd.+11,+Chesterville+ON+K0C+1H0)

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**Put your Nursery in the MLF
Spotlight!**

Are you one of our Nursery Partners? We want to feature your Nursery in our E-News! We include a feature article about one or more of our Partner Nurseries in each of our quarterly newsletters, on our blog and shared on our social channels.

If your nursery would like to participate with an interview, article or just share some news, please drop a line to Caitlin, our Nursery Liaison: nurseryliaison@mapleleavesforever.ca

Our E-newsletter has a growing readership of nearly 2400 recipients, all of whom have expressly chosen to receive our notes to their email, and most of whom live in the Southern Ontario region. Take advantage of this free opportunity to grow awareness about your enterprise!

Maple Care and Planting

~ SUMMER ~

July - August

- **water as needed**, keep trees well-watered during times of heat & drought, especially newly planted trees. Water weekly, supplement when no natural rainfall occurs.
- **add or restore mulch** as needed & clear surrounding weeds
- the recommended time for **pruning** young maples is mid-July through early August
- fertilize established trees as recommended but not newly planted trees
seek assistance if trees appear to be stressed
- monitor regularly for presence of insects or other pests

Late August

- if you are considering planting trees in the fall, visit our [Rebate page](#). You may be eligible for a Thank You Rebate for planting native maples on your rural property

Early September

- **water** trees slowly and deeply to help trees store nutrients & prepare for winter
- inspect tree form, **prune** only lightly, as needed

[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

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