



MAPLE LEAVES
FOREVER

Winter 2023 News

- A "Mast Year" for Sugar Maple Seeds
 - Spring Planting Rebate Program
- New *Canadian Tree Nursery Association*
 - Trees for Life interviews Ken Jewett
 - Giving Tuesday (Nov. 28!)
- New Nursery Partner: Somerville Nurseries Inc.
 - Winter Maple Care

A "Mast Year" for Sugar Maple Seeds

by Deb Pella Keen, Executive Director



Sugar Maple seeds or samaras have been flying everywhere this fall. Also affectionately known as helicopters, maple 'copters, whirlybirds, twisters or whirligigs - you may have been wondering, why the huge flurry of activity this fall?

Heavy seed crop years, when most parent trees produce seed, are responsible for most of our healthy, genetically diverse sugar maple forests. These heavy to bumper crops or mast years occur approximately every 4 to 7 years for sugar maples. Fall 2023 years has proven to be a mast year for sugar maple, along with other forest species such as red oak and white pine.

Did you know that not all maple species produce seed that mature and fall in the fall? In addition, not all maple species produce seeds periodically.

- Silver maple - annual seed, mature in late spring
- Red maple - annual seed, mature in late spring
- Sugar maple and Black Maple - seed produced every 3-5 years, mature in the fall

Masting is an evolutionary adaptation for successful reproduction. Every seed contains the nutrients to feed a new tree seedling. This little packet is also important food for animals such as squirrels, mice, and beetles. By coordinating seed production to mast years, these seed-eating animals are unlikely able to eat all the seeds produced in a mast year, leaving the rest to germinate, sprout and grow as a seedling.

To learn more about mast years like 2023, check out the following links:

- [Collecting Sugar Maple Seed \(MapleLeavesForever.ca\)](https://MapleLeavesForever.ca)
- [Tons of Acorns - It must be a mast year \(theconversation.com\)](https://theconversation.com)

Deb Pella Keen
On behalf of the MLF Team

MLF News

Learn about our 25% REBATE on Native Maple Trees

**SPRING APPLICATIONS OPEN February 1st,
2024.**

Applications due May 15.

Restrictions apply.

Visit mapleleavesforever.ca/apply-now/ for details.

FIND OUT MORE

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!

Maple Leaves Forever founding sponsor of new Canadian Tree Nursery Association





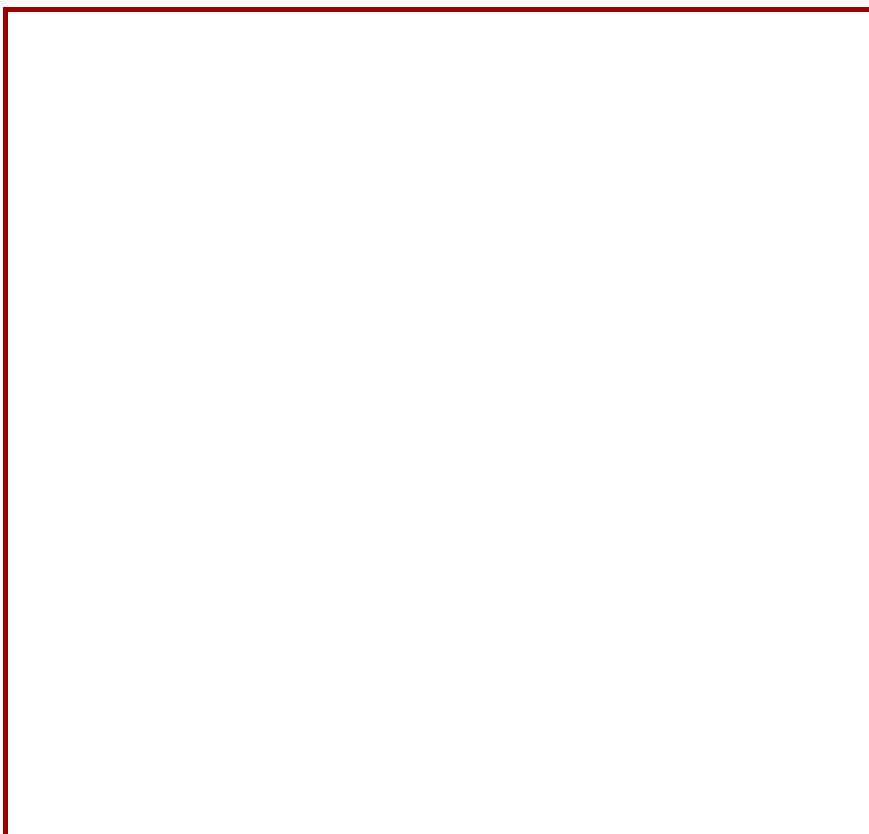
Exciting news for Canadian tree lovers and growers! Maple Leaves Forever is a founding supporter of the newly launched **Canadian Tree Nursery Association**, established to help accelerate forestry restoration efforts in Canada. Check out www.ctna-acpf.ca for details and read the October announcement [here on the Maple Leaves Forever website](#).

A PASSION FOR NATIVE MAPLES

Trees For Life features interview with MLF Founder Ken Jewett

Trees for Life recently posted an appreciation interview with MLF Founder Ken Jewett who, with MLF, has been a faithful sponsor of the Trees for Life and Highway of Heroes programs.

[Read the full article on treesforlife.ca](http://treesforlife.ca)



Ken Jewett

A Passion for Native Maples

Ken Jewett, businessman, naturalist, and philanthropist, shares his story of love for native maple trees, spanning decades, which has resulted in a legacy of roads lined with their undeniable beauty.

A dark red rectangular graphic with white and teal decorative elements. At the top center is a white heart containing a red maple leaf. Below it, the text "GIVINGTUESDAY IS HERE!" is written in large, bold, white letters with a red outline. Underneath, "JOIN US TO CELEBRATE THE WORLD'S LARGEST GENEROSITY MOVEMENT." is written in smaller white letters. At the bottom center, the hashtag "#GIVINGTUESDAYCA" is displayed in white. The graphic is decorated with white and teal starburst shapes in the corners.

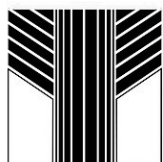
**Join us for the 10th Annual
GIVING TUESDAY
November 28th, 2023**

your donations are eligible for a charitable tax receipt! Giving Tuesday is an annual event to encourage waste free, ecofriendly charitable gifts, just in time for Christmas! Consider [donating](#) to Maple Leaves Forever as a gift on behalf of your loved ones - you can even send them one of our custom Maple E-cards available through Canada Helps.

Donate Today!

Nursery News

Spotlight on our NEW NURSERY PARTNER!



**Somerville
Nurseries Inc.**

Everett, Ontario



Somerville Nurseries
5884 County Rd. 13
Everett, Ontario L0M 1J0

Website:
somerwillenurseries.com
Phone: [\(705\) 435-6258](tel:(705)435-6258)
Email:
info@somerwillenurseries.com
[Facebook](#)

Maple Leaves Forever is pleased to welcome Somerville Nurseries to our Nursery Partner Program this month!

Somerville Nurseries Inc. was founded in 1950 by John Somerville. By planting trees into harvested timber lands as a side business, John began a simple Christmas tree farm, which has since branched into a three-division company.

Christmas trees are still a large part of our business, but we also grow ornamental nursery stock and seedling transplants. Although Somerville Nurseries Inc. specializes in evergreen trees, we also grow many native hardwood species, including sugar maple. Our deciduous tree product line ranges from large wire basket trees, down to bare root transplants.

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!

Winter Maple Care

Late November - December

- monitor for tree damage or stress (snow load, ice damage, vandalism and rodent or deer browsing).
- prune only to remove dead, cracked or broken branches.

January

- monitor for tree damage or stress
- [prepare planting plans](#) for upcoming year
- place order for Native Maples from [nursery](#) (You may be disappointed if you delay doing this now)

February - March

- monitor trees for over-winter damage and repair as needed
- finalize [planting plans](#)
- contact nursery to arrange for tree pick up or delivery
- [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!)

PRUNING: **Native Maples should NOT be pruned during the late winter through spring season.** Bleeding (loss of sap from pruning wounds) can be excessive when maple trees are pruned during this time. Wait until the leaves have fully formed in mid-summer. Light pruning can also be done in fall. [Learn more about pruning here on our website.](#)

[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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Email: info@mapleleavesforever.ca

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

Website: www.mapleleavesforever.ca

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