

A Spring Newsletter from Maple Leaves Forever.

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SPRING IS PLANTING SEASON

A message from our Executive Director, Deb Pella Keen



First and foremost, I hope you and your families are safe and well. The last few weeks have been unprecedented for all of us as the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have been felt closer to home - in the communities in which we live, work and serve.

We recognize our spring newsletter will not be a top read for many of you. However, we thought it might be helpful to those who may be trying to complete their tree planting plans this spring.

Our staff at Maple Leaves Forever are continuing to work from home, so if you have any questions please contact info@mapleleavesforever.ca.

All the best and stay safe,
Deb

Nurseries and COVID-19

Our THANK YOU
REBATE gives you 25%

Rebate Applications at this time. Many retail nurseries are closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic. If you call or email your local nursery, you may be able to arrange for the purchase and pick up or delivery of your trees. Given the exceptional circumstances, if you are unable or choose not to acquire your trees, Maple Leaves Forever will hold applications until Fall 2020 or Spring 2021. We appreciate your continued interest in planting native maple trees.

[Check out our Partner Nurseries on the MLF website](#)



2020 Presentation Challenge: Waste Management

Win an invitation to the Ontario Envirothon Championships!



In-Person Envirothon Events Cancelled for April

Maple Leaves Forever is a proud sponsor of the Ontario Envirothon. Forests Ontario recently announced: "In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, all in-person Envirothon events that had been scheduled for April have been cancelled. However, the [Online Presentation Challenge](#) has been extended to

Spring Planting Applications Due

FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2020
for bare root stock &

MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2020
for container grown and B&B caliper trees.

[CLICK HERE](#) for Rebate Details & Application Form



How to plant your native maples

It's planting season! For detailed instructions and tips for planting native maple trees, please check out the comprehensive [PLANTING GUIDE](#) in the [CARE AND PLANTING INFO](#) section of our website.

work together online with your team to compile a presentation video from the comfort of your own homes."

[Find out More at ForestsOntario.ca](http://ForestsOntario.ca)

TELL A FRIEND!



If you recently received our Thank You Rebate, or you find our information helpful - **please**

share this email with your contacts!

We'd also love to see **photos and stories** about your maple plantings - send them along to

info@mapleleavesforever.ca and let us know if we can share!



Landscape Ontario Congress & Forests Ontario Conference

Maple Leaves Forever was proud to once again attend the LO Congress in January 2020 and the Annual Forests Ontario Conference in February.

Photo: Carl Mansfield (MLF's Arboreal Consultant) mans the MLF booth.

New MLF Envirothon Award

On February 14, 2020, Executive Director, Deb Pella Keen presented the **"Maple Leaves Forever Envirothon Award"** to **Terry Schwan**, a Registered Professional Forester and an outstanding contributor as a forestry specialist and Ontario Envirothon supporter.



Note: The [Ontario Envirothon](#) is a team-based competition for high school students who love the outdoors. It is an incubator for tomorrow's environmental leaders, designed to prepare students for future green careers.

Spring Maple Care & Planting Calendar

April

planting

- [new plantings](#) – plant when soil conditions are favourable
- [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
- inspect established plantings for over-winter damage and [prune](#) only to remove dead, cracked or broken branches

May

- [new plantings](#) – [water thoroughly](#), [add mulch](#) & clear surrounding weeds
- [stake](#) newly planted trees, if necessary
- [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 - take actions as may be required

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 x 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)

June

- [new plantings](#) (container grown and B&B) – [water](#) slowly & deeply to get water down to the roots after planting, clear surrounding weeds, [add mulch](#) & [stake](#) (if necessary)
- [water newly planted](#) & established maples as needed, frequency will increase during hot, dry conditions
- consider using [tree watering bags](#) to reduce risk of water stress
- fertilize established trees as recommended, but not newly planted trees

- check for seed development on mature sugar maple trees if interested in [harvesting](#) or know of others interested in collecting sugar maple seed (seed matures in mid/late September)

[View our comprehensive online](#)

[MAPLE CARE CALENDAR](#)

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



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Why did I get this?

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 about our activities and encourage the planting and ongoing care of more native maples in rural Ontario!

We only send 3 or 4 emails a year. You can [unsubscribe](#) from these mailings at any time. No hard feelings.

Feel free to share and forward MLF News to your friends and neighbours - and encourage them to plant native Canadian maples too!

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