

Seedlings for Tree Planting on Private Lands Program

Spring 2027

The Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) offers a tree seedling planting program for landowners with a minimum of 1 hectare (2.5 acres) within the Upper Thames River watershed. Planting projects include windbreaks, retiring highly erodible land, treed buffer strips along watercourses, and areas of your property where you would like to add diversity and create habitat. Seedlings purchased through this program may be planted through the UTRCA's full planting service (grant eligible) or by the landowner. See below for details on both programs.

Choose from a variety of coniferous and deciduous trees and wildlife shrubs. Species and quantities are subject to availability from the nurseries -- please contact us in the fall for the best selection. While tree survival cannot be guaranteed, the UTRCA takes every precaution to ensure the trees are received in the best condition possible.

The deadline for ordering trees is February 26

UTRCA Planting Services

UTRCA staff visit site, prepare planting plan, plant bare-root seedlings (by hand or machine), and apply two applications of herbicide.

- Minimum order: 300 seedlings
- Landowner agrees to maintain trees for minimum 15 years

Planting Costs

- 300-999 trees - \$3.10/tree (machine or hand planting) + HST
- 1000-2499 trees - \$2.50/tree (machine planting) or \$3.10/tree (hand planting) + HST
- >2500 trees - \$1.40/tree (machine planting) or \$3.10/tree (hand planting) + HST

Grants for Landowners

Grants are available to reduce landowner costs for trees and planting for eligible projects:

- 300-499 trees - may be eligible for grants, ask staff for details
- 500-999 trees - minimum 50% off cost of trees and planting
- 1000-2499 trees - minimum 60% off cost of trees and planting

Planting Schedule

- Fall: UTRCA staff visit site and prepare a planting plan; Landowner completes required site preparation and staking.
- January/February: UTRCA invoices landowner; payment is due.

- April/May: UTRCA staff plant seedlings and apply first herbicide application.
- Growing season: Landowner is required to mow between the tree rows 3 to 4 times during the first growing season and to water the trees if there is an extended dry spell .
- September/October: UTRCA staff assess survival.
- Fall or next spring: UTRCA staff apply second herbicide application when weather and ground conditions (bare soil) are suitable.

Landowner Planting

UTRCA staff provide technical tree planting advice, order the trees, and arrange for shipment to our cold storage facility. Landowners are responsible for picking up their trees from the designated location and planting them.

- Minimum order: 50 seedlings
- Trees must be ordered in multiples of 10 per species
- Cost: \$40 administration and shipping and handling fee, plus the cost of the seedlings and HST



UTRCA Maintenance Program

Weed and grass control in the first few years is vital for young seedlings. A third herbicide application is available at \$0.40/seedling. Contact us if you'd like an additional spray.

Available Species

Coniferous Trees	Age	Size	Cost / Seedling (HST Incl.)
European Larch	2	20 cm+	\$1.86
Tamarack	2	20 cm+	\$1.86
Norway Spruce	3	20 cm+	\$1.86
White Spruce	3	20 cm+	\$1.86
White Pine	2.5	15 cm+	\$1.86
White Cedar	3	25 cm+	\$2.20
Red Cedar	3	25 cm+	\$2.54

Deciduous Trees	Age	Size	Cost / Seedling (HST incl.)
Silver Maple	1	20 cm+	\$2.26
Sugar Maple	1	20 cm+	\$2.71
Red Maple	1	20 cm+	\$2.43
Bitternut Hickory	2	20 cm+	\$2.54
Hackberry	2	20 cm+	\$2.54
Black Walnut	1	20 cm+	\$2.26
Sycamore	1	20 cm+	\$2.54
Black Cherry	2	20 cm+	\$2.26
White Oak	2	25 cm+	\$2.54
Swamp White Oak	1	25 cm+	\$2.54
Bur Oak	1	25 cm+	\$2.54
Red Oak	1	25 cm+	\$2.26
Hybrid Poplar	1	25 cm+	\$2.54
Cottonwood	1	25 cm+	\$2.54

Wildlife Shrubs	Age	Size	Cost / Seedling (HST incl.)
Red Osier Dogwood	1	20 cm+	\$2.54
Staghorn Sumac	1	20 cm+	\$2.03
Nannyberry	3	25 cm+	\$3.11
Highbush Cranberry	1	25 cm+	\$3.11

For more information:

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