

# TRURO TREE COMMITTEE

## 2019 Urban Tree Planting Programs

For the 47<sup>th</sup> year, the Town of Truro will be helping citizens' plant new trees within the urban forest, offering two separate urban tree planting programs: a tree planting rebate program and the sale of smaller, potted trees offered by the Town (see *species list and order form below*).

Residents wishing to apply for a rebate of up to **\$50** per tree toward the purchase price of trees they have purchased and planted can do so at any time between **May 1, 2019** and **September 30, 2019**. Applications will be processed on a first come, first served basis and rebates will be given toward trees of appropriate species (*Canadian Plant Hardiness Zone 5 or hardier*) until the end of the program deadline or available funding, whichever comes first. The rebate is for 50% of the purchase price of the tree, to a maximum of \$50 per tree, and for up to ten (10) trees per property. To apply for the rebate, simply contact the Tree Committee once your new trees have been planted to arrange a site visit. Call **902-893-6071** for more information if desired.

**Beginning in 2017 Norway maple varieties (*Acer platanoides*) will no longer be eligible for the rebate!**  
**Beginning in 2018 Ash species (*Fraxinus*) will not be eligible for the rebate due to *Emerald Ash Borer!***

The **“Do It Yourself”** (DIY) planting program includes a large selection of trees and shrubs for purchase, the majority being native to our Acadian Forest Region. These small potted trees and shrubs range in height from 20cm to 60cm, depending on the species selected

Trees & shrubs under the DIY program are available for **\$10** each, taxes included! **Orders will be accepted until May 31, 2019** and will be available for pick-up **Friday, June 7, 2019** at the **Parks, Recreation & Culture Dept** facility located at **200 Willow St.**, next to the *Needs* store, from **10am** until **2pm**. Orders will be processed on a first come, first served basis and are subject to availability, as numbers may be limited at the nursery. For more information call the Truro Tree Committee at **902-893-6071**, or via e-mail [awilliams@truro.ca](mailto:awilliams@truro.ca)

Written descriptions of the tree species being offered through this year's program are included in this newsletter. Those with internet access may wish to visit the website noted at the end of each description in order to view an image of the tree. **To place your order simply fill out the order form below**, or print one off the Town website and mail it in or drop it off with your payment to the Town Office at 695 Prince St.

**\* ORDERING DEADLINE is MAY 31, 2019 \***

Truro Tree Committee – **2019 DIY TREE ORDER APPLICATION**  
 Return to: **Truro Tree Committee, 695 Prince St, Truro, NS, B2N 1G5**

### “DO IT YOURSELF” Trees (\$10)

Eastern Hemlock	White Birch	Red Osier Dogwood
Austrian Pine	Yellow Birch	Common Elder
Norway Spruce	Red Maple	Meadowsweet
Red Spruce	Black Chokeberry	Steeplebush
White Spruce	Purple Chokeberry	Sweet Gale

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Postal Code:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

Total payment enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (PLEASE DO NOT MAIL CASH)

*For more information contact Andrew Williams @ 893-6071 or [awilliams@truro.ca](mailto:awilliams@truro.ca)*

# Town of Truro – Truro Tree Committee

## 2019 DIY Tree Planting Program Tree/Shrub Descriptions

**\$10 each in 1 gallon pots**

### **EVERGREEN TREES**

**Eastern Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*)**: A native Nova Scotian evergreen, stands of which may be seen in Victoria Park. This tree is capable of reaching mature heights of 12-21m (40-70') and widths of 8-11m (25-35') and will therefore require room to grow. Pyramidal in form and finely textured. This tree is shade tolerant but can thrive in full sun; hemlock is intolerant of drought. This tree does best on moist but well drained soils in a sheltered location. Not for windy, exposed locations or wet, heavy clay soils.

<https://macphailwoods.org/nature-guides/trees/eastern-hemlock/>

**Austrian Pine (*Pinus nigra*)**: This hardy, adaptable pine is native to Europe but has been widely planted across North America as an ornamental. This tree is tolerant of a wide range of soil conditions, including clayey soils, urban stresses, heat, drought and road salt. Reaching mature heights of up to 20m (65') and a spread of 12m (40') this tree will require adequate room to grow and mature. Needles are in bundles of two, 8-15cm (3-6") long, stiff and sharp. This tree is suited to planting near the shore, as well as group plantings as a windbreak, due to its tolerance of both exposed sites and salt spray.

[http://www.canadiantreetours.org/species-pages/Austrian\\_pine.html](http://www.canadiantreetours.org/species-pages/Austrian_pine.html)

**Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*)**: This fast growing European native is commonly planted as both an ornamental as well as having been widely utilized in plantations across the province. This tree is capable of reaching mature heights up to 30m (100'), but heights of 20m (66') and a width of 8m (26') are more typical. Norway spruce display a pyramidal crown which develops a weeping or drooping appearance as it matures. Large 10-15cm (4-6") cones on older trees are often used for crafts. This tree will require full sun with moist but well drained soils. Norway spruce is suited for use in mass plantings in groups, as windbreaks, or as single specimens.

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=e620>

**Red Spruce (*Picea rubens*)**: This native spruce is the provincial tree for Nova Scotia, as well as our most valuable source of lumber and pulp. Reaching mature heights up to 21m (70') and a crown spread of approximately 6m (20') at maturity. Red spruce can survive in wet swampy areas in poor light, but obtains its' best growth on moist well drained soils in full sun to light shade. In the wild this tree often hybridizes with black spruce, creating offspring which share the characteristics of both parent species. On poorer sites, or when stressed, red spruce needles often take on a chlorotic pale yellow-green colour.

<https://macphailwoods.org/nature-guides/trees/red-spruce/>

**White Spruce (*Picea glauca*)**: This native tree is common right across Canada, with the exception of the Pacific coast, and commonly referred to as both "cat" and "pasture" spruce. A very hardy and adaptable tree, white spruce can withstand heat, wind, drought (once established), and salt. Reaching mature heights of up to 20m (70') and crown widths of 6m (20') this tree will require room to grow. White spruce is well suited, and often utilized in mass plantings to create a spruce hedge, as well as windbreaks. White spruce makes its' best growth on moist loamy or alluvial soils in full sun, but quite adaptable and will tolerate light shade.

<http://conifersociety.org/conifers/conifer/picea/glauca/>

## ***DECIDUOUS TREES***

**White Birch (*Betula papyrifera*):** Commonly referred to as “paper birch”. If there is one tree that most anyone can identify, this is probably it. Often planted as an ornamental, this native tree develops the characteristic peeling white bark as it matures. White birch reaches mature heights of 18m (60’), is fast growing and relatively short lived (60-70yrs is typical). This tree does not tolerate shade, and will make its best growth on moist but well drained soils in full sun. Two common native insect pests are the bronze birch borer and the birch leafminer. Bronze birch borer infestations are not easily or successfully controlled once established; keeping trees free of stress, vigorous, and well-watered during dry periods is an effective means of preventing an infestation in the first place as the insects target trees which are weakened & stressed.

<http://ontariotrees.com/main/species.php?id=2097>

**Yellow Birch (*Betula alleghaniensis*):** Another native Nova Scotian tree, highly valued as lumber. Recognizable by its attractive bronzy yellow bark (shiny reddish brown when young) in narrow papery shreds; this tree prefers cool, moist, rich soils and would perform well on a north facing slope. Yellow birch does not do well on a hot, dry site. Yellow birch is a large tree at maturity reaching heights of 18-23m (60-75’).

<http://tidcf.nrcan.gc.ca/en/trees/factsheet/15>

**Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*):** This native tree is Nova Scotia’s most abundant hardwood, well known for the characteristic brilliant red foliage in autumn, although some trees may display yellow leaf colour. Red maple is adaptable to a wide variety of soils from wet swampy areas (hence the other common name of swamp maple) to dry sites. Requires slightly acidic soil, and is moderately shade tolerant. Red maple has a relatively shallow and wide spreading root system with some surface roots. This is a moderately large growing, wide crowned tree reaching mature heights of 12-18m (40-60’), or more, with a fast growth rate and will require room to grow.

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=j170>

## ***NATIVE SHRUBS***

**Black Chokeberry (*Aronia x prunifolia*):** A native, multistem deciduous shrub, 1-1.5m (3’-5’) in height, and capable of spreading by suckering to form colonies. Useful in mass plantings for borders, bank stabilization, and wetland reclamation. Adaptable and tolerant of both dry and wet soils. Best growth, flowering, fruit production and fall colour is obtained in full sun. Bearing clusters of tiny white flowers in early spring. Shiny dark green summer foliage turns wine red to purple in autumn, contrasting with the hanging purplish black fruit, which remain on the plant for some time. As the name implies the fruit is very astringent, and although eaten by many birds is usually left until later in the season before being consumed.

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=j420>

**Purple Chokeberry (*Aronia x prunifolia*):** A native, multistem deciduous shrub, 1-1.5m (3’-5’) in height, and capable of spreading by suckering to form colonies. Useful in mass plantings for borders, bank stabilization, and wetland reclamation. Adaptable and tolerant of both dry and wet soils. Best growth, flowering, fruit production and fall colour is obtained in full sun. Bearing clusters of tiny white flowers in early spring. Shiny dark green summer foliage turns wine red to purple in autumn, contrasting with the hanging purplish black fruit, which remain on the plant for some time. As the name implies the fruit is very astringent, and although eaten by many birds is usually left until later in the season before being consumed.

<https://pfaf.org/user/Plant.aspx?LatinName=Aronia+prunifolia>

**Red Osier Dogwood (*Cornus stolonifera*):** This native deciduous shrub is commonly planted in the home garden, and is readily identifiable by its’ bright red bark and distinct parallel venation on the leaves common to dogwood species. Red osier dogwood, or *red twig dogwood*, is commonly found in the wild growing along stream banks, ditch lines, field edges, and swampy areas. This plant will spread via its fibrous root system to create large colonies if left unchecked, and for that reason is often planted as a means of stabilizing soils on slopes and stream banks. This plant produces flat topped clusters of white flowers in June, which mature to white berries in early fall. The fruit is eaten by over 90 species of birds, and the twigs are browsed by snowshoe hare, deer and moose. Reaching mature heights of 2-3m (6-10’) and a spread of 3m (10’). This plant will grow on almost any soil, from clay to sand and gravel as long as ample moisture is available. It is pH adaptable and can be grown in full sun to partial shade. As stems mature they tend to lose their vibrant red color and periodic pruning to remove older stems is recommended to promote new vigorous, brightly colored growth.

<https://macphailwoods.org/nature-guides/shrubs/red-osier-dogwood/>

**Common Elder (*Sambucus canadensis*):** This native flowering shrub is probably best known for the wine which can be made from its' fruit, and/or the song by Elton John titled "Elderberry Wine". A medium-large shrub reaching heights of up to 3m (10') and a similar or slightly narrower spread. Also referred to as simply *elderberry*, this plant produces flat topped clusters of tiny star shaped white flowers in mid-July, which ripen into clusters of edible purple-black fruit by late summer. The fruit, or "elderberries", are high in both vitamin A and C and may be made into jams, jellies, pies, and of course wine; provided you can get them before the birds do! Although adaptable to a variety of soil conditions, best growth is obtained on moist, but well drained, fertile soils in full sun. This plant can spread via "root suckers" to form thickets if not controlled.

<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/all/sambucus-canadensis/>

**Meadowsweet (*Spirea latifolia*):** A small native shrub, 1m (3'), related to cultivated spireas. White to pink flowers born in narrow pyramidal clusters on new growth at branch ends. Dried flower heads persist through winter. Prefers moist soils. Suited to woodland or natural gardens.

<https://extension.umaine.edu/blueberries/weed-images/woody-weeds/meadowsweet/>

**Steeplebush (*Spirea tomentosa*):** a common native shrub also known by the name hardhack. Mature heights between 60cm-180cm and slightly wider spread; with 10cm-20cm steeple-like clusters of purple/pink flowers from July to September. Prefers moist, acidic soils, in full sun to part shade. Capable of spreading to form colonies. Commonly found in fields, pastures, marshes, pond/lake and stream margins. The flowers are attractive to birds, bees and butterflies, while the plant itself is considered deer resistant.

<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/all/spiraea-tomentosa/>

**Sweet Gale (*Myrica gale*):** Also known as bog myrtle, this small (60cm-150cm tall) native deciduous shrub with bluish-green leaves is in the same family as northern bayberry. Male and female flowers are found on separate plants. Commonly found growing in riparian areas, swamps and marshland, sweet gale is tolerant of nutrient rich wet, acidic soils in full sun to partial shade. Sweet gale would be a good accent plant bordering a pond or wet area. <http://ontariotrees.com/main/species.php?id=2082>

**Visit the website listed at the end of each description to view an image of the plant.**



***"The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now."***

**–Chinese Proverb**