

1 Getting Started...

Increasing and restoring the forest cover in our watershed is part of CVC's mandate. Our Naturalization Planting Program grows a wide variety of native potted trees and shrubs for use by residents in our watershed. CVC offers a planting service where we do the planting for you on orders of 100 or more plants. If you prefer to do a smaller planting, we also offer our direct sale program. You pick up the plant material in the spring and do your own planting (minimum order 20 units).

CVC also offers the Reforestation Planting Program, providing the planting services and technical expertise to reforest your property using smaller bare root seedlings. We can do your reforestation projects for you with bare root reforestation stock. If you would rather order bare root seedlings to plant yourself, we can offer you technical advice on how to do your own planting and can also provide local seedling sources from which to purchase your stock from.

If you choose to purchase potted naturalization material directly from us and plant your own trees and shrubs, we have put together some guidelines below for you to consider. Included in this package are several fact sheets that you can use in combination with these guidelines to help you through the planting process and make your planting project a success. We are pleased to provide additional technical advice to help guide landowners through the planting process.

Pre-Planting Guidelines

Before you start your planting project, ask yourself the following questions:

- What are my planting objectives and expectations?
- What are my site growing conditions?
- Which plants will do best on my planting site?
- How many plants do I need?
- What is the best way to plant and space out plant material?
- How and when do I want to pay for my plant material?

- Create a visual buffer or windbreaks along a roadway or adjacent to a building. In this case, you may want to include more conifer stock in your planting to have green cover year round.
- Add material to create fall colours or act as wildlife feeding stations.
- Use plantings to improve the edges of ponds and streams (riparian corridors). This will help to shade and cool your ponds and streams for aquatic wildlife, reduce soil erosion and create wildlife habitat.
- Return areas back to a more natural state to reduce property maintenance such as grass cutting and weeding.

1 Planting Objectives

All your planting activities should be considered long term as it takes years before the plant material will get to a substantial size. Some plants will be lost to deer browsing, rodent damage, winter damage or even drought, so don't be discouraged if a few plants are lost over time. Your naturalization project could focus on one or more of the following objectives.

- Create habitat for birds and wildlife on your property. You may want to encourage wildlife for closer viewing or create shade and diversity in certain locations by planting along a trail network or wooded edge.
- Develop a wildlife corridor. Plant trees in a line that connect two forest pockets.

We request that our plants not be used for landscaping nor planted within 15 m (50 ft) of the house. Wherever your planting is located it will help to beautify and increase the value of your property.

2 Site Growing Conditions

Be sure to look up, as well as down to determine site growing conditions. As a general rule, do not plant trees under hydro lines or under other larger trees - unless the larger trees are in decline and the planting is a replacement for these trees. Please refer to our **Site Evaluation factsheet** to help you determine your soil type, moisture level in the soil and the amount of sunlight the area receives over the entire day. This information is critical in determining which species are best suited to your planting site.



Tree Planting Service



3 Plant Selection

Once you have determined your growing conditions (soil type, soil moisture and available sunlight) please refer to the **Species Availability List and Selection Table** on factsheet #5 to help you determine which plants are best suited for your site location. Diversity is also the key to any planting. Keep in mind that specific species of trees and shrubs will attract different wildlife to your property. Disease is often species-specific so diversity in species will better protect a planting.

4 Size of Planting

The minimum order required through our Naturalization Direct Sale Program is 20 plants (any combination of species). It would take two people approximately 2 hours to plant 20 trees/shrubs. Estimating the number of units of plant material needed is outlined in the **Planting factsheets**. Do not overwhelm yourself with a large planting; CVC offers a planting service for our naturalization material for any orders of 100 plants or more.

5 Planting Technique and Design

Whatever your objective, there are some basic guidelines to follow before you start planting. Be sure to refer to our factsheets for more detailed information. Prepare a planting schematic or planting plan of your project to keep in your records and to help you visualize your project on paper. We recommend you use tree guards to protect the trees from rodent damage and mulch mats to help control vegetative growth and retain soil moisture around each plant. CVC can provide both tree guards and mulch mats.

6 Plant Pick Up and Payment

Please complete our **Nursery Stock Order Form** included in this information package and forward it to us. We have a designated date in the spring for pick-up of potted stock. Payment can be made by cheque at the time of pick-up.

This information package will help you better prepare for your planting projects and also help improve the success and survival rate of each planting. If you need assistance our forestry staff are available to help answer your planting project questions.

