



Participate in our 2026 Lake Tree Day

Receive up to 15 native trees and shrubs for your shoreline in
partnership with Bennett & Fagan Lakes Association



Lake Tree Day 2026

In Partnership with Bennett & Fagan Lakes Association

What is Lake Tree Day?

A partnership with Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) and Bennett & Fagan Lakes landowners to add native trees and shrubs to their shoreline.

What will you get?

Up to **15 trees and shrubs** - all plants will be bare root stock between 24"-36" tall in 1 gallon pots filled with soil.

How Much does it Cost?

A minimum **\$30 donation** to the Stewardship Program at MVCA - this donation will come with a charitable tax receipt!

Who is Eligible?

Shoreline landowners on **Bennett & Fagan Lakes**, who agree to plant trees and shrubs within 45 m of the lake.

Why Plant Trees and Shrubs on your Shoreline?

1. Provides valuable wildlife habitat
2. Helps control shoreline erosion
3. Filters pollutants and nutrients from entering the waterbody

Important Information

- Please fill out the plant order sheet and submit it to kcuddy@mvc.on.ca by **February 20th, 2026**, along with the \$30 donation.
- Plants will be available for pick up this spring at Sharbot Lake - time and location TBD.

Want to Naturalize Further?

If you are interested in further naturalizing your shoreline, please contact us at the above email for more information about our Shoreline Planting Program.



2026 Plant List

Shrubs

- Meadowsweet
- Black Chokeberry
- Red Osier Dogwood
- Ninebark
- American Elderberry
- Highbush Cranberry

Trees

- White Pine
- Eastern White Cedar
- Paper Birch
- Red Maple
- Red Oak

Icon Legend



average maximum height



sun requirements



soil requirements



moisture requirements



tolerance

See following pages for plant descriptions

Meadowsweet (*Spiraea alba*)



2 metres



Partial



Sand, Loam, Rock



Any



Drought, Flood

Key Features

Large, cone-like stems terminating in clustered white flowers. Yellow-green leaves.



Fun Fact

Important for many butterflies and other pollinators, especially Azure butterflies.



Black Chokeberry (*Aronia melanocarpa*)



2 metres



Full, Partial



Sand, Clay, Rock



Any



Drought, Flood

Key Features

Red-brown bark, glossy green leaves, white flowers in bunches of five petals, dark blue-purple berries. Low maintenance, very drought and flood tolerant.



Fun Fact

Leaving berries through winter attracts birds like waxwings and chickadees. It also provides good shelter and nesting habitat.



Red-osier Dogwood (*Cornus stolonifera*)



3 metres | Full, Partial | Sand, Loam, Clay | Moist | Flood

Key Features

Red branches, clustered white flowers, clustered white berries. Popular with shorebirds, waterfowl, and deer. Quick spreading and hardiness make it great for shoreline stabilization.



Fun Fact

'Red-osier' is French for 'red willowy shoot', after the resemblance towards willow trees in the winter when leaves have fallen.



Ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*)



3 metres | Full, Partial | Sand, Loam, Clay, Rock | Any | Drought, Flood

Key Features

Fluffy-looking white bunches of flowers, red fruit, peeling red-brown bark. Attractive to bees and butterflies in the flower stage, and songbirds in the fruiting stage.






Fun Fact

Named after its peeling bark in layers of different colours, best visible in winter.



American Black Elderberry (*Sambucus nigra* ssp. *canadensis*)

    
3 metres | Full | Loam, Clay, Humus | Any | Flood

Key Features

Long leaves, broad and flat white flowers, dark purple berries (edible only when ripe or cooked). Soft pith.








Fun Fact

The berries of Elderberry were once believed to cure disease. It is now understood to have vitamin C and antioxidants. It is popular for making jams and sodas, and landscaping for birds.



American Highbush Cranberry (*Viburnum opulus* var. *americanum*)

    
4 metres | Full, Partial | Loam, Clay, Sand | Moist | Flood

Key Features

Not a true cranberry, instead it is related to honeysuckles. Flat-topped clustered white flowers, round red berries (edible). Self-pollinating, so only one plant is needed to produce fruit.



Fun Fact

Edible berries are sour, high in vitamin C, and great for jams and sauces. Can be toxic in large quantities.



White Pine (*Pinus strobus*)



40 metres | Full, Partial | Sand, Loam, Rock | Dry - Wet | Drought

Key Features

Needles grow in bunches of 5 and are 6-12 cm long. Cones are long and hang down from branches.



Fun Fact

The eastern white pine is the provincial tree of Ontario! If planted in direct sun, it will grow quickly and is ideal for privacy or for creating shade for your house.



Eastern White Cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*)



15 metres | Full, Partial | Sand, Clay, Loam, Rock | Dry - Wet | Drought, Flood

Key Features

Identifiable by their ridged, strip-like bark and flat branches with 1-2 mm long matte green needles. Provides shelter and food for a variety of animals.



Key Features

Cedar's are well-loved for their woody-citrusy scent, and are used in soaps and teas.



Paper Birch (*Betula papyrifera*)



25 metres | Full, Partial | Sand, Loam | Moist - Wet | Flood

Key Features

Name-giving white bark peels into papery-strips. Bark beneath these strips is pink. Leaves are oval with pointed tip and jagged edges. An important browsing tree and habitat for many animals.



Fun Facts

Paper Birch has also been referred to as a White Birch, Silver Birch and Canoe Birch. It has been used by Indigenous Peoples for centuries for birchbark canoe making.



Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*)



25 metres | Full, Partial | Sand, Clay, Loam | Normal - Wet | Drought, Flood

Key Features

Grows and matures fairly quickly, is a great shade tree. One of the first trees to flower each spring, producing red flowers. Leaves have 3-5 lobes, with sharp jagged edges. Leaves turn bright red in fall.



Fun Fact

Also called 'Swamp Maple', this tree loves damp, acidic, wetland-adjacent habitat.



Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*)



30 metres | Full, Partial | Sand, Clay, Rock | Dry - Moist | Drought

Key Features

Leaves are 10-20 cm long, with 7-9 sharp pointed lobes. Very strong, thick bark. Leaves turn bright red in fall.



Fun Fact

Oak trees spread north after the last ice age due to the help of Blue Jays catching their acorns (and accidentally planting the trees). To this day Blue Jays are commonly found around Oak trees.



What to expect on Lake Tree Day

- Bareroot plants - these are generally second year plants with no soil on the roots
- To save space and keep the plants in the best condition we will put multiples of the same species in one pot with soil
- It is best to plant your trees and shrubs right away, but they can survive in shade with regular watering for up to a couple weeks if needed
- Landowners will receive a planting guide with instructions on planting and proper maintenance
- If you have any questions about what plants to choose, how to care for them or other ways to naturalize your shoreline please reach out to us!



60 cm - 90 cm

