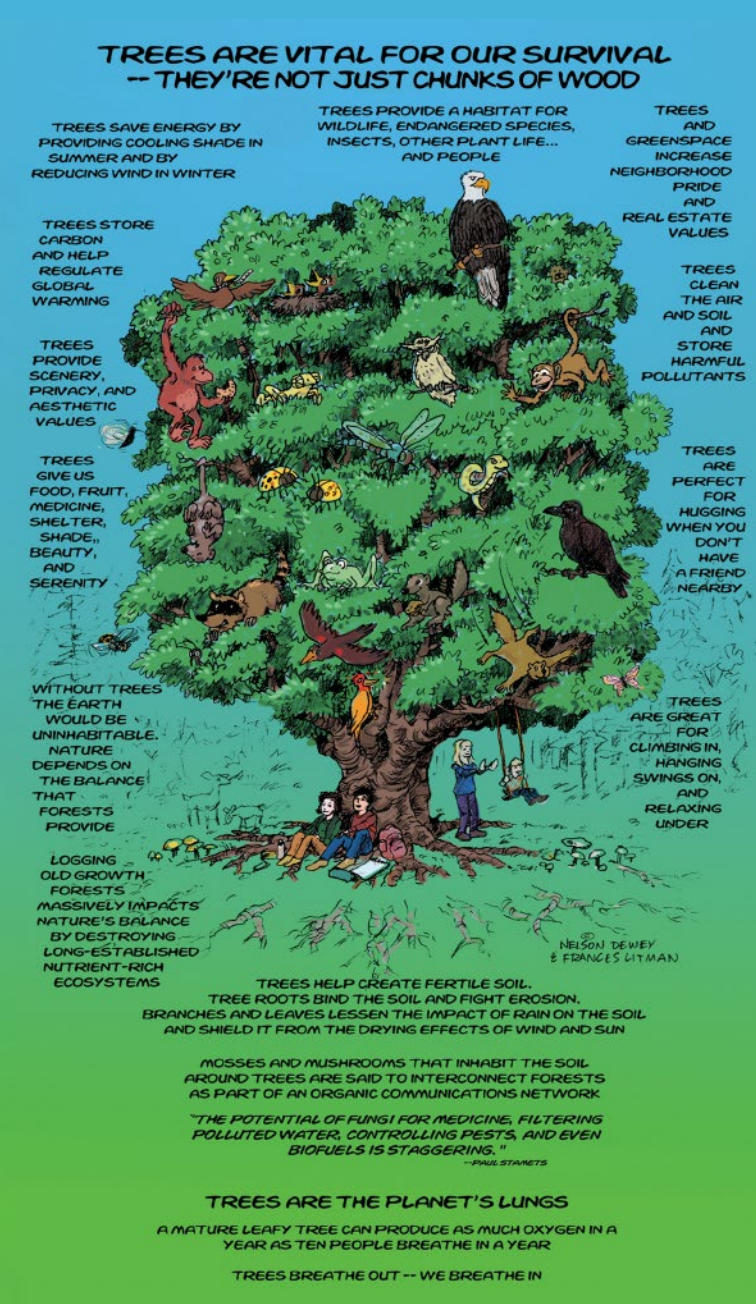




Planting Tips & Tree Care

- Find the best possible location where trees can remain undisturbed for decades.
- Choose a resilient species native to the region.
- Pick the most appropriate location with room to grow.
- Provide adequate water and mulch for three years.
- Plant trees only during the dormant season.
- Stake young trees to ensure a solid structural foundation and prune as required.
- Protect the tree's root zone from disturbance.
- Water in the morning and avoid watering foliage.
- For very old or dying trees, reduce canopy and support limbs.

It can take up to 200 saplings to create the climate benefits of one mature tree

The Benefits of Mature Trees

- There is no substitute for mature trees. Maximum ecosystem benefits come from larger, older trees with large canopies.
- Replacing mature trees with saplings can take 25 to 30 years before a tree is large enough to provide its full range of ecosystem benefits to the community. Saplings have a low survival rate.
- It can take up to 200 saplings to create the climate benefits of one mature tree.
- Mature trees are the most resilient. They have withstood the test of time and severe weather.
- Proper pruning of damaged limbs can help ensure their longevity.
- Mature trees are vital for Natural Asset Management (NAM), climate action and liveable communities.
- Mature trees must be championed and protected. Homeowners can register a Conservation Covenant on their land title.

TREES MATTER



Be rooted: Recognize your connection to ancestors and all life
 Bend like the willow: Be flexible to survive life's storms
 Turn toward the light: Focus on growth and positivity
 Be a team player: Collaborate, as trees do within a forest
 David Suzuki - Lessons From Trees

Photography & writing: franceshitman.com

LIVING TREES ARE THE MOST VALUABLE

- Without trees the earth would be uninhabitable.
- Trees clean, filter and purify air and water.
- Streets with mature trees result in reduced levels of asthma.
- Trees calm our nervous systems, make communities safer and contribute to community pride.
- Trees provide beauty, habitat, food, shelter and shade for wildlife, pollinators, plants and humans.
- Trees stimulate our senses and make wonderful living memorials to honour loved ones.
- Mature trees offer privacy from neighbours, buildings and reduce street noise.
- Mature trees increase property values.
- Trees provide considerable cooling shade on hot days and help block wind.
- Trees save money on energy bills and flooding costs.
- Trees create fertile soil and fight erosion by reducing the drying effects of wind and sun.
- Trees store carbon and help regulate global warming.

How to Protect Trees

- Enjoy and get to know the trees you see every day. Join local community groups to advocate for them.
- Demand councils advocate for tree protection, including at the Union of BC Municipalities annual convention.
- Develop and maintain strong community-wide support for urban trees.
- Volunteer to plant trees on private and public land.
- The value of living trees must be clearly reflected in increased development and permit costs.
- Encourage municipal authorities to offer incentives and rewards for developers who protect and preserve existing trees by reducing the footprint of building envelopes.
- Educate councils, arborists and municipal authorities about Natural Asset Management (NAM) and the value of trees.
- Lobby local government to buy private treed land for public forests and parks.
- Register a Conservation Covenant (Section 219 of the BC Land Title Act) on your property title.

Proper management of urban trees and forests is a climate action strategy that saves everyone money and maximizes biodiversity, health and wellness.



Mature Trees Are Safe

The annual odds of big trees or branches falling are roughly 1 in 5 million in urban and residential settings. Unsubstantiated fears result in the premature demise of mature trees.

Source: National Library of Medicine

Zen Your Yard Care

Want to help address climate change and reduce your emissions?

Switch your gas powered mowers and blowers to quieter, smog free rechargeable battery and electric alternatives and let your friends, family, municipal authorities, lawn and yard maintenance companies know that healthy options exist.

Air and noise pollution from gas-powered lawn and yard maintenance is not only annoying to your neighbours, but is also harmful to your health and the environment.

For Tree Videos and Resources: visit CreativelyUnited.org & YouTube.com/CreativelyUnited



Free Community Event & Information Sharing Hub

- Events (live + online)
- Educational and Community Resources
 - Climate Ready Community Toolkit
- Downloadable Guides and Graphics
 - Non-Profit Directory
 - Community Trees Toolkit
- Creatively United on YouTube

www.CreativelyUnited.org

