



## ARBOR WEEK: MAY 28TH TO JUNE 6TH, 2021

SOS Trees Coalition in partnership with a growing number of community organizations including the Meewasin Valley Authority, University of Saskatchewan and the City of Saskatoon will be hosting the 2021 Arbor Week celebration. **Arbor Week 2021** is an opportunity for individuals and families to learn the "how to" of planting trees, the benefit of trees and the joy of spending time in them. Our theme for the 2021 Arbor Week is "**Resurgence**". Due to the Pandemic, events will be a mixture of virtual and small group/bubble activities. Our goal this year is to inspire and educate so that we will be better prepared for when we can gather again to begin an expanded planting of our urban forest.

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## EVENTS FOR RESURGENCE 2021

We are planning a number of activities that are focused on this theme of 'Resurgence'. After many months facing a pandemic, we feel this theme appropriately depicts renewal, hope, and a "fresh start." As we know trees can provide positive benefits on our mental and physical health. Due to Covid, we've had to get creative with our planning to ensure that participants are safe.

## PUBLIC EVENTS

### WANUSKEWIN COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS INTERVIEW

**Thursday May 13th, 12-1 pm.** Wanuskewin will be doing an interview with Linda Moskalyk representing SOS Trees to talk about the upcoming Arbor Week and trees in general. The show will be on the [Wanuskewin Community Connections Facebook live](#).

## MEEWASIN ECO-SCAVENGER HUNT AT BEAVER CREEK CONSERVATION AREA

**Starting Friday May 28th:** In celebration of Arbor Week, Meewasin is hosting a self-guided tree-themed Eco-Scavenger Hunt where participants can learn to identify and record their nature findings as citizen scientists! Stop by the Beaver Creek Interpretive Centre to pick up your Eco-Scavenger Hunt card. Participants are encouraged to report their sightings using the [iNaturalist app or website](#). Collected data will be used as part of Meewasin's monitoring framework to assist in Meewasin's stewardship efforts. Build your nature knowledge and take part in the activity by visiting Beaver Creek during regular hours (Wed. – Sun. from 10 am – 5 pm). Learn what you need to know before you go [here](#).

## QR CODE TREE WALK

**May 28th to June 6th:** The QR Code Interpretive Walk is a guided audio nature walk which teaches the audience about specific trees living in Saskatoon and what they contribute to our urban ecosystems. The walk will feature six interpretive sites in Meewasin Park North. Start at the entrance of the park at the intersection of Pinehouse Drive and Whiteswan Drive. They are in a small area and easily visible. Fun for families and friends in small groups. This event sponsored by [Wildernook](#) will be up for the entire Arbor Week.

## THE FRIENDS OF THE FORESTRY FARM TOUR

This self-guided tour taken from the [Jane's Walk Tour](#) focuses on the evergreen species in the park. Arbor Week should be good timing to also enjoy the flowering apple trees in and around the Meditation Gardens. On May 29th there will be volunteers in the gardens who can answer any questions about the trees.

## SK TREE FOR LIFE PROGRAM AT BEAVER CREEK CONSERVATION AREA

**May 29th & 30th, 12-4 pm.** The Saskatchewan Association of Watersheds and its member watershed groups are excited to announce the launch of the [Saskatchewan Tree for Life Program](#)! The goal of the program is to educate and increase public awareness of climate change and to promote positive environmental change in Saskatchewan. A young tree can store up to 13 lbs of CO<sub>2</sub>, and at 10 years old, a tree can store up to 48 lbs of CO<sub>2</sub>! With financial support from Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), the Saskatchewan Tree for Life Program will kick off with an initiative that will see 24,000 free trees be planted across Saskatchewan. By planting trees, a person can do their part in helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Representatives from the South Saskatchewan River Watershed Stewards will be on site at Beaver Creek on May 29th to promote this program. Stop by for your free tree!

## **RICHARD ST BARBE BAKER AFFORESTATION AREA: TAKE CARE OF TREES PROGRAMME**

**Saturday, May 29th 9-11 am.** Come out to honour Arbor Week and the inspirational role of Richard St. Barbe Baker. This forest restoration event will indeed help the participants to take care of trees everywhere, and also to do a good deed while restoring the forest. Please register your intent to participate in this restoration programme so we can align with COVID protocols. Everyone will need to bring and wear facemasks. We will also encourage social distancing during this restoration programme. All participants will need to sign-in as per COVID regulations additionally. For more information see [Eventbrite](#).

## **PLEIN AIR SKETCHING (HUE'S ART SUPPLY)**

**Saturday May 29th - 12-2 pm. Drawing Outdoors** Bring a sketch book and pens or pencils to draw some trees at Gabriel Dumont Park. Meet first at Hues Art Supply (1818 Lorne Ave) at 11:30 am to pick up anything you need and to meet **Jean Dudley**, today's facilitator. We will head over to the park and set up to draw some trees. Event will be canceled if weather is below 10 degrees C or if it's raining or snowing.

## **DRINKS ON THE PATIO: BLACK FOX FARM & DISTILLERY**

**Weekends - 12-5 pm.** Black Fox Farm & Distillery was borne of a passion for agriculture and love of the land. Trees are planted on our property nearly every spring and that is something to celebrate this Arbor Week! For this special occasion, Maple Oaked Gin Old Fashioneds will be served on our patio both weekends. Come enjoy the fresh air and tree themed cocktails while taking in the new spring growth here on the farm. Reserve a spot on the patio [here](#).

## **RICHARD ST. BARBE BAKER INFORMATION SESSION WITH ROBERT WHITE**

**Sunday May 30th 2-3 pm** Extraordinary legacy tour of Richard St. Barbe Baker and the 326 acre afforestation area named in his honour. Robert White will share his knowledge about Richard St. Barbe Baker who, by some estimates, has been responsible for planting at least 26 billion trees during his lifetime through international organisations he founded or assisted. Many world wide tree planting organisations have arisen inspired by his legacy. Arbor Week is a fitting time to commemorate the legendary work of Richard St. Barbe Baker. This tour will have two leaders to share stories about this heritage forest and how Saskatoon was a pioneer in creating nature based climate action solutions with the planting of this man-made forest on the prairies. Free. Registration and more info at [Eventbrite](#).

## URBAN TREES & SHRUBS: WEBINAR WITH SARA WILLIAMS

**Tuesday June 1st, 7-9 pm.** "Urban Trees & Shrubs: Planting, their role in our landscapes & selection" Free online webinar with Sara Williams co-sponsored by the University of Saskatchewan. Celebrate Arbor Day by planting a tree! Majestic elms and Manitoba maples once dominated our urban treescapes, But our choices have never been as great as they are today. Selected for their ease of maintenance and freedom from problems, these trees range from the diminutive and dainty 'Princess Kay' plum to the newer white to pink flowering crabapples: oaks, lindens, mountain ash hackberry and maples; soft and slender evergreens such as sub-alpine fir and Swiss stone pine; and many more. [Register here.](#)

## NATIVE PLANT WALK & SCAVENGER HUNT AT WANUSKEWIN

**Friday June 4th, 3-5 pm** Chris Standing Community Connections Coordinator will be leading a guided Native Plant walk & Scavenger Hunt at [Wanuskewin Heritage Park](#) to help promote and participate in Arbor week.

## GEORGE GENEREUX URBAN REGIONAL PARK CLEAN UP

**Saturday, June 5th, 9 am - 5 pm** Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas will host a clean up at the George Genereux Afforestation site. We are following great COVID protocols as recommended for safety, while still looking after our amazing city park. There is lots of room for social distancing. After signing in, COVID bubbles will be directed to different areas in the large greenspace with maps of targeted areas which need attention. There are both large items and smaller trash to remove. It is wise to come dressed for the weather - a hat, closed toe footwear, sunscreen, bug spray & water bottle, canvas gloves, masks. We supply refreshments (i.e. water bottles, juice boxes, granola bars). There will be on-site free facemasks, sanitizer, plastic gloves & trash bags. Free. Registration and more info at [Eventbrite.](#)

## PLEIN AIR PAINTING (HUE'S ART SUPPLY)

**Saturday June 5th - 12-2 pm. Plein Air Painting** - Bring along your supplies to paint the trees and sights at Gabriel Dumont Park. Meet first at Hues Art Supply (1818 Lorne Ave) at 11:30 am to pick up anything you need and to meet **Jean Dudley**, today's facilitator. We will head over to the park and set up to draw some trees. Event will be canceled if weather is below 10 degrees C or if it's raining or snowing.

## HOT DRINKS OUTSIDE

**Saturday June 5th 2-4 pm.** Saskatoon Cycles "Hot Drinks Outside" will meet in Meewasin Park straight into the park where Pinehouse Drive meets Whiteswan Drive. Enjoy the camaraderie with other cyclists and learn a little about trees through the Wildernook interpretive tour.

## SASKATOON NATURE SOCIETY: ARBOR WEEK HIKE

**Sunday, June 6th, 1–3 pm.** We will view trees along the MVA trail and City Park neighbourhood. Leader: Sara Bryson. This field trip is open to members and non-members. Register by emailing [Saskatoon Nature Society](#).

## REMAI MODERN: SOMETHING ON SUNDAYS

**Sunday June 6th 1-4 pm.** This is a drop in come-and-go free program featuring a pop-up tree card making activity. There is a free gallery space on the main level, The Connect Gallery, where there are drawings of medicinal plants and trees by artist Clara Hume. Details at the [Remai Modern website](#).

## WOODLAND ART ADVENTURES

Carman Gilmore has a small, home based children's nature art studio through her program [Woodland Art Adventures](#). Children can learn about and have fun with trees through her videos: [Salt Dough Impressions](#), [Nature's Paintbrushes](#), [Birch Painting](#) and [Chalk Drawing](#). There is also a self-guided tour called [Conifer Quest for the Forestry Farm](#). **Botany Backpacks** are free to borrow for 10 days, contactless pickup in Saskatoon. If you're outside of Saskatoon and would like to borrow one please let Carmen know. Reserve your backpack today by [sending an email](#).

## OTHER EVENTS

- **May 28th - Mayoral Ceremonial Tree Planting** to Kick off Arbor Week.
- **Holy Cross High School** - Art teacher Ann Donald's grade 9 and 12 classes will be creating tree sketches and paintings for Arbor Week.
- **Brightwater Science and Environmental Centre** - Student tree planting project
- **Georges Vanier Catholic Fine Arts School** - Teacher Rod Figueroa and his class will be giving away 450 trees to students. The students will also be researching and presenting their tree research assignments.
- **One School One Farm** is working with students from 2 schools to plant trees and celebrate Arbor Week through education. **GROVICTORIA:** Groveland Regenerative Farm and Ben Oaken's grade 6/7 class from Ecole Victoria School, Saskatoon. Goal: To design and plant an Eco-buffer shelterbelt. The students have been researching Eco-buffer design and all of the species they hope to incorporate. **WALTER RESTORATION:** Restoring 71 and Walter Murray School Saskatoon (Outdoor School and Brian Thorstad's Grade 9 class) Goal: Prairie Restoration. The students have been growing prairie plants for the Restoring 71 site. With the support of the South Saskatchewan River Watershed Stewards, each student will also have a shrub to plant.
- The youth from [Wild Outside](#), a program of the Canadian Wildlife Federation, is installing some painted signs at the Afforestation Areas, and creating a "Story Map" that will be posted online for others to use as a scavenger hunt of sorts (i.e. find all the signs in the Afforestation Area).