



Tree News

April 2021

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Arbor Week May 28-June 6, 2021

Plans are moving forward with Saskatoon's Arbor Week 2021 presented by SOS Trees Coalition. This year's tree celebration while observing Covid 19 public health protocols will provide the opportunity for individuals and families to learn the how-tos of planting trees, the benefits of trees and the joy of spending time in them.

Our theme for the 2021 Arbor Week is 'Resurgence'. This year's events will be the sprouts of resurgence through education that will better prepare families for tree planting and gain momentum for expanded community based plantings of our urban forest in the future when the pandemic finally allows us to gather again.

We are planning a number of activities that are focused on this theme of '**Resurgence**'. After many months facing a pandemic, we feel that **Resurgence** appropriately depicts renewal, hope, and a "fresh start." We know trees can provide positive benefits on our mental and physical health. Being outside in nature is one of the best things we can do for ourselves, our family & friends. The Arbor Week committee has been working diligently and are still recruiting additional partners and funders for our Arbor Week activities.

We are constantly updating the [Arbor Week 2021](#) web page so check us out. If you are planning an event or even just a small activity to celebrate trees send us the information and we will add it to the events on the web page.

Volunteers are needed to help distribute posters to local businesses & libraries. If you can help please email [SOS Trees](#).

Special Thanks To Our Sponsors

[The City of Saskatoon, Healthy Yard Program](#)

[B&B Tree Services](#)

[Sask Power](#)

[Porcupine Tree Services](#)

[EcoFriendly Sask](#)

[Joan Browne Memorial Fund](#)

[Landscape Saskatchewan](#)

[ISA Prairie Chapter](#)



Green Ash

A glimpse at Saskatoon's history of a great tree plan that never quite got completed

Did you know?

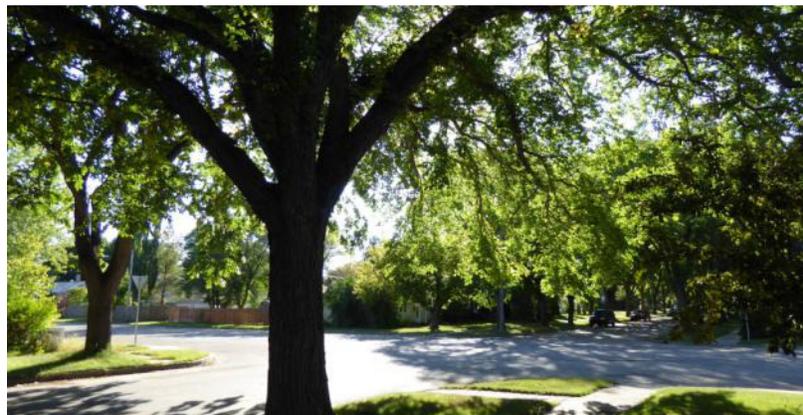
"In the 1960s the City purchased almost [3,000 acres](#) of summer fallow fields southwest of Saskatoon as part of a plan to set aside tracts of land to create green belts around the city." and that is as far as creating the greenbelt around the city progressed. Today those 3,000 acres are the [Richard St. Barbe Baker and George Genereux](#) Urban Regional Parks. If you have not visited them now is a good time to see what might have been had the plan for a green belt been fulfilled.



The Richard St Barbe Baker afforestation site is enjoyed by the Fat Bike riders who have trails and signs throughout this area. It is also shared with walkers.

This is your brain on trees: Why is urban nature so good for our minds, and what happens when a pandemic isolates us from it?

A very timely article [From the Globe & Mail](#)



Be a tree advocate!

Check out the trees around local construction sites:

Spring is here and with it the ground has thawed and construction is increasing. One of the easiest ways to protect our beautiful city trees and least likely to be implemented is the protection of the trees roots.

City policy is very clear:

SCHEDULE C TO (CITY) POLICY C09-011

Preventing tree damage in a construction zone

6. Prevent compaction under the drip line of a tree

No grade changes, storage of materials or equipment is permitted within the critical root zone area of a tree.

To prevent compaction of the root zone, a wood chip mulch 15 cm (6") in depth within the root zone of the tree and 10 cm (4") away from the trunk is required.

You can help when you are out for a walk or bike ride take a pen and pencil or your cell phone and note the address and if possible take a photo of trees not being protected. Then call Urban Forestry at: 306-975-2890 or you can email them at; urban.forestry@saskatoon.ca and report trees that have not been adequately protected.

The Value of Our Urban Forest

Unlike other infrastructure, trees increase in value over time. In 2019, the value of public trees (excluding shelterbelts and afforestation areas) was estimated at more than \$530 million. This value does not include ecosystem services, which add additional direct and indirect economic value. For example, trees filter air pollutants such as carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, particulate matter, and sulfur dioxide (Figure 5). The urban forest stores 682,000 tonnes of CO₂ and sequesters an additional 26,750 tonnes of CO₂ per year (Figure 6). The estimate only includes the carbon stored in above ground woody tissue and does not include carbon stored in the roots or surrounding soil. (From City of Saskatoon Urban Forest Management Plan 2021)

For additional information check out "Avoiding Tree Damage During Construction" & "Proper Mulching" at [Trees are good.org](http://Treesaregood.org)



Planning On Planting A Tree

Did you know that you may qualify for a [tax credit](#)?

*“Do you want a brief explanation of an acorn?
In a nutshell, it’s an oak tree.”*

Calendar

- ◆ For the most up to date Arbor Week schedule of activities go to [Arbor Week](#).
- ◆ For the most comprehensive listing of environmental events in the province, check out [EcoFriendly Sask](#).

In the news

[Spruce In Decline](#) A Saskatoon urban forester is raising concern over the decline of spruce trees in the city. David Kearns of Kearnsy Consulting and Educational Services says spruce trees have become drought-stressed from a lack of precipitation.

[Victoria Av. Bike Lane](#) SOS Trees Coalition submitted letters supporting options that did not require center median tree removal. Management recommended option 4 which would require tree removal. The Transportation Committee is recommending option 1 which does not remove the center median trees.

[Climate Justice Saskatoon](#) has a monthly Advocate Check In, a great way to stay informed of Province policy and how you can help move the environmental agenda forward.

Join SOS Trees Coalition Today

SOS Trees Coalition is on the move, we have increased our efforts and effect with the City of Saskatoon to protect our trees. Arbor Week will be our largest public education event in recent history. We are already advocating for a major public tree planting initiative in 2022 and every member and donor is crucial as we build our coalition. Please take a moment and sign up for your [Membership](#) today. Thank you!

Thank You to Our Sponsors



SOS Trees Coalition is pleased to offer this electronic newsletter to our members and supporters who have an interest in trees in Saskatoon. Through sharing information we can all be more consistently informed and therefore become better advocates for our urban forest and the individual trees that make life so much more enjoyable. If you do not want to receive this newsletter or to share your comments with us regarding our publication please email us at [SOS Trees](mailto:SOSTrees@saskatoon.ca).

You can also follow us on Facebook at SOS Trees Coalition <https://www.facebook.com/SOSTreesCoalition>.

Membership and contributions to SOS Trees Coalition support the protection and fostering of stewardship of Saskatoons urban forest. To become a member or supporter go to: [membership](#) or you can mail directly to; 1618 9th Avenue North, Saskatoon, SK S7K3A1. SOS Trees Coalition is a registered charity.

