

Care for Carbon Carolinian Forest

An initiative of the Wheatley Two Creeks Association

Wheatley Two Creeks Association's mandate is to address the conservation, recreation and cultural needs of the Wheatley community and area while maintaining the ecological significance of the unique flora and fauna of our Carolinian forest.

The Memorial Grove helps fulfil this mandate, as do the activities of our Environmental Awareness Program. Existing programs include recycling bins at the pavilion and the collection and proper disposal of household batteries.

Our newest initiative consist of the establishment of a Care for Carbon Carolinian Forest program, designed to plant trees to (partly) offset carbon dioxide emissions, also known as 'greenhouse gases', that we produce on a daily basis. Every time we use a powered device, we produce by-products such as carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide. These gases absorb long wave radiation emitted from the earth, and this leads to the heating of the atmosphere. Long-term reductions in greenhouse gases will largely be achieved through a combination of increased energy efficiency, implementation of alternative technologies and reduction in energy demand. Short-term reduction can be reached by habitat conservation and by planting trees. Forested ecosystems sequester carbon through the annual increment in growth in their woody biomass and the proportion of litter fall that becomes incorporated into the soil. In Other words, tree growth happens through the absorption of atmospheric carbon dioxide, which is stored in fall foliage and fallen needles and twigs that will be absorbed in the soil. Our Care for Carbon Carolinian Forest is an excellent and easy way to express our environmental responsibility by partly offsetting the greenhouse gases we produce.

You may wonder: How many trees do I need to plant? Well, that depends on your emission. One Canadian website will calculate the number needed to offset your emissions; www.treecanada.ca/calculator/index.htm. The board of Two Creeks, however, is equally happy if you plant a minimum of five trees per year. We do ask you to respect the short list of specific Carolinian trees we would like to (re) introduce to the Conservation Area. Tree planting will take place every fall, and we encourage you to participate with your family and friends. Participants can bring their own trees (see short list) or more convenient, we can provide the trees for you.

We invite you to participate by planting trees by filling out the form on the back and submit it to;
Wheatley Two Creeks Association, P.O. Box 1011, Wheatley, N0P 2P0

The 2009 short list of native trees consists of Trembling aspen, Red maple, Silver maple, Ohio buckeye and Hackberry. Our annual tree-planting day will take place on Saturday, November 7 2009 at 10.00am gathering at the Pavilion. We encourage you to bring friends and family to celebrate with us. Please remember to dress appropriately for the weather and buds, and bring a spade.

For more information on Two Creeks or the program;

Call Rick Taves, 519-825-3736

Internet www.twocreeks.ca

E-mail info@twocreeks.com

2009 Care for Carbon Carolinian Forest

Please indicate the amount of trees per species you wish to plant:

_____ Trembling aspen
_____ Red maple
_____ Silver maple
_____ Ohio buckeye
_____ Hackberry

If you wish to have us provide the trees (\$10 ea), please make a cheque payable and mail to;
Wheatley Two Creeks Association
P.O. Box 1011
Wheatley, Ontario
N0P 2P0

Your name

Phone number

I will supply my own trees (yes or no)

I wish to purchase _____ trees from Wheatley Two Creeks Association and enclosed a cheque for \$ _____.

Please mark you calendar for November 7 2009 at 10.00 gathering at the Pavilion.
The Conservation Area is located just 3 km north of down town Wheatley, on Kent Road 1.