

PLANT A TREE, MAKE OUR CITY COOL

At Western Landscaping we encourage you to help us celebrate the importance of trees in our lives. By planting just a single tree or shrub, you can make a difference. Each tree will help to contribute to cleaner air, lower energy costs, create greater protection of our soil and water supplies, reduced noise levels, and establish a more serene and beautiful environment in which to live.

The benefits of planting a tree:

Air

- A tree produces oxygen while using up carbon dioxide. Some scientists contend that the over-abundance of carbon dioxide in the earth's atmosphere will lead to the "greenhouse effect".
- A tree's foliage filters out fine particulates and smog, and also traps ash, dust, and pollen.

Soil

- A tree's falling leaves and needles decompose. This decomposing material provides rich nutrients for the soil.
- A tree's roots help to anchor the soil, thus preventing valuable topsoil from being blown away by the wind or washed away by the rain.
- A tree's roots and canopy reduce flooding by allowing rain to percolate into the ground, which reduces rainfall run-off.

Water

- A tree, in addition to reducing topsoil erosion, also helps prevent harmful land pollutants, contained in the soil, from getting into our waterways.
- A tree, in addition to slowing down water run-off, ensures that groundwater supplies are continually being replenished.

Noise Levels

- A tree's various parts absorb sound waves, deflect the waves in different directions, and thereby reduce the sound's intensity. Each 100-foot width of trees can absorb about 6 to 12 decibels of noise. Since a busy highway can generate as much as 72 decibels of sound, trees can make a significant and welcome reduction in noise levels.

PLANT A TREE, MAKE OUR CITY COOL (Continued)

Utility Costs

- A tree, such as an evergreen, if properly placed in your yard, can act as a windbreak and an insulator. In the winter, this can translate into lower home heating costs.
- A tree, especially a deciduous, if strategically placed to provide shade for your home's roof and outside walls, can help reduce air conditioning costs in the summer.

Property Values

- A tree adds to the beauty and charm of the landscape and can therefore increase the property's value.
- A tree breaks up the monotony of masonry, cement, metal and glass along city streets and sidewalks. Areas with trees often attract more people (e.g. tourists, customers).

Recreational Places

- A tree provides valuable play areas where children can climb, make a swing and build a tree house. In urban areas, trees help children to see and appreciate nature.
- A tree is often used by birds and small animals for shelter, nesting and for the storage of food. Again, this enables all of us to have some contact with nature.
- A number of trees can help hide unsightly areas such as garbage dumps, highways, scrap yards, mine sites, etc.

Landscape Ontario

For more information on 'Plant A Tree, Make our City Cool' please contact Western Landscaping at 613-389-2384.

