



**Friends of the
Saskatoon
Afforestation
Areas Inc.**

<https://stbarbebaker.wordpress.com/>
friendsafforestation@gmail.com

**National Forest Week
Theme "Our forests - Continually giving"
Saturday September 18, 2021 to Sunday September 26, 2021
Maple Leaf Day September 22, 2021**

The Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas Inc. is hosting a week of free webinars for National Forest Week to explore the amazing benefits of trees and forests as they support biodiversity and ecosystems, mitigate flooding, raise the water table, absorb carbon dioxide, provide life-saving oxygen as well as providing amazing greenspace for recreation and healthy lifestyles. It's a celebration to focus on forest heritage, culture, and history highlighting the importance of trees, their essential ecological services. It's a time for residents to tell stories about their love of trees, and appreciation of forests and how very blessed we are.

The acceptance of proposals for live virtual sessions is now open. Proposals are accepted and welcomed from everyone with an interest in sharing about trees and forests. This document outlines the week long theme, sub-themes, and proposed areas of focus. If you have a forest or tree related concept not mentioned, please email a query in regards to your proposal. The webinar sessions will be broadcast via ZOOM streaming, and delegates can share a pre-recorded video created and submitted in advance, or utilize a live power point slide show to be streamed virtually during National Forest Week. Presenters should allow time for a question and answer session following the presentation. The Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas Inc. program committee reserves the right to make the final selections. Proposals should include a summary or abstract of their presentation for publication introduction to the webinar. Proposals should be submitted in English via email. Those groups and individuals submitting proposals will be notified by email of final acceptance or regrets to the submitting contact person. Once accepted, the presenter agrees to be present for the webinar session, and participate as proposed - the time and date will be mutually arranged as much as is possible given the constraints of the one week window of opportunity and the number of participants. The webinar will be recorded and posted on a video-sharing webpage such as YouTube, Vimeo, etc. Questions? Contact us at friendsafforestation@gmail.com

Local presenters with a proposal(s) for virtual webinars may additionally submit an event for an in-person outdoor place-based sessions in or around Saskatoon related to trees and forests.

We anticipate an exciting and informative week celebrating "Our forests – continually giving"

National Forest Week

Theme "Our forests - Continually giving"

Sub-themes and Areas of Focus

- **Ecological Succession and tree planting**
- **Creating a rally for woods and trees; United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 15 Life on Land**
- **United Nations Decade on Ecological Restoration**
- **Urban Forestry, Green belts, Garden Cities and the North American Horticultural Society Green Survival Program**
- **Tree Health and the relationship with Mycology [fungi] How Trees Talk to Each Other**
- **Benefits of trees, tree calculators, trees absorb CO2, Nature based solutions to climate change**
- **Tree science and ongoing research for trees and forests**
- **Invasive Species and Ecological Restoration**
- **Stewardship Practices for Environmental Protection and Species at Risk**
- **Trees and Art**
- **Tree Blindness, Vitamin "N" Deficiency**
- **Re-wilding the forest, native pollinator gardens, food forestry, three sisters community gardens**
- **Community Development changing the talk to embrace forests and environmental protection, and the value for nature based solutions to climate action, CPTED**
- **Heart mind and soul stories; nonfiction and science meet up. Folklore and characters, i.e. Ents**
- **Findhorn, and Richard St Barbe Baker and spiritual connection to trees**
- **The Bahá'í Faith the interrelationship with the environment which captivated Richard St. Barbe Baker and the interrelationship of this spirituality and trees/forests**
- **Trees and Healing arts, i.e. PaRx movement in SK, Baker healing in forests, hugging trees, Chipko, health benefits for the general public**
- **First Nations Cultural practices, ethnobotany and trees, Other cultural practices; Shinrin Yoku and Hygge**
- **Biosecurity. measures aimed at preventing the introduction and/or spread of harmful organisms (e.g. viruses, bacteria, etc.) to animals and plants in order to minimize the risk of transmission of infectious disease [i.e. COVID and people vis a vis Dutch Elm Disease DED and Elms]**
- **Passionate people past and present regarding trees and forests. An echo to the campaign from the Minister of Environment and Climate Change for the Environment and Climate Change ECCC 50th birthday in 2021.**
- **Nature-based solutions to Climate action United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 13**