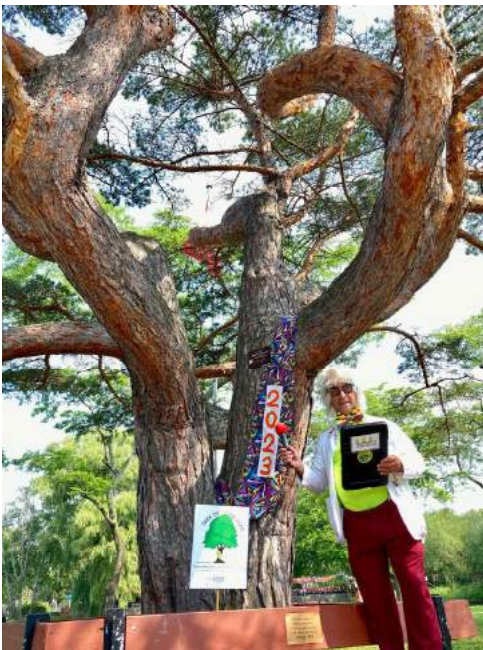


2023 Tree of the Year

REPORT

Sponsored by Echo Foundation

treetrust.ca/tree-of-the-year



CENTRE WELLINGTON | TORONTO ISLAND COMMUNITY
TOWN OF BLUE MOUNTAINS | MEAFORD | WATERLOO
STRATFORD-PERTH

Fondation **ECHO** Foundation
ECHO

CENTRE WELLINGTON

HOW

A campaign through Social Media, Email blast, and print outlets invited individuals of the community to nominate a tree with a few sentences about why they love that particular tree or a picture and include a photo. Over 30 nominations were submitted through the 3 month-long campaign.

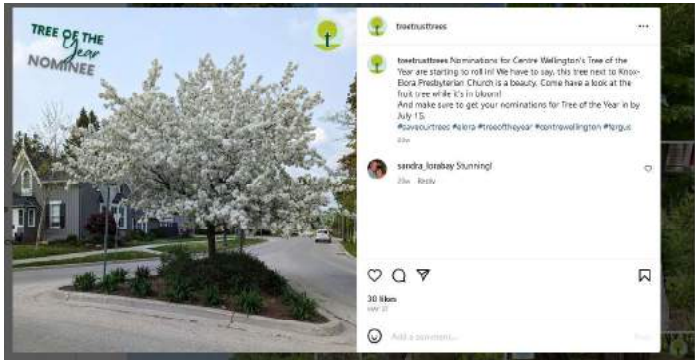
DETAILS

A panel of judges were chosen based on historical knowledge of the area, knowledge of the community, and arboriculture knowledge.

The panel voted based on a pre-specified set of criteria to crown the winning Tree of the Year. It took the judges 2 meetings to pick the winner. after the nominations closed.



Pictured: Kathy Bouma (Horticulturer Society), Phil Guenter (arborist) Al Koop (Historian)



Over 30 nominations were submitted through the 3 mos campaign. A selection were featured across social media during the campaign.

EVENT

Oct 1, 2023 Open to the public with 35-40 attendees
Special guest Speakers:
Senator Rob Black Mayor Shawn Watters Phil Guenter, Baum Tree Care Al Koop, Historian



Tree of the Year Winner
Species: **Black Walnut**
Age: **130+**
DBH: **95.5 cm** **5.3 total tons of carbon stored**
Canopy: **30m** **\$233 (USD) in overall benefits this year**
Height: **21m** **23,518 L of stormwater intercepted this year**



COVERAGE

[Fergus Tree Wins Local Beauty Pageant](#)
[Centre Wellington Tree of the Year Winner](#)
[Centre Wellington Announces its Tree of the Year](#)



Accompanying nominee submission cases:

Martha Epstein	epsteinbrook@gmail.com	Garafraxa Street E across from where Gowrie Street N ends	Black Walnut	4/7/2023	I don't even know what kind of tree this is but it spans more than the width of this lot. It is majestic. It's located on Garafraxa Street E across from where Gowrie Street N ends I have been visiting it ever since I spotted it this winter.
Kim Wood	kwood506@hotmail.com	249 Garafraxa St E	Black Walnut	4/7/2023	This is the tree I think should be nominated Tree of the Year. It is a beautiful Black Walnut located at 249 Garafraxa St E (looks down Gowrie St). I walk past it almost every day and always stop to admire its beauty, form and majestic power.
Kelly Hall	kellyhall.rmt@gmail.com	249 Garafraxa St E		7/7/2023	I would like to submit this tree at 249 Garafraxa St E. It truly is magnificent! I'm not sure you even notice it when driving by it on Garafraxa but as soon as you sitting at the stop sign facing north on Gowrie St, that's when you see it! This tree reaches from one side of the property right to the other side and it is glorious all year round.

TORONTO ISLAND COMMUNITY

HOW

This Scots Pine has long been a favourite tree for residents of the Toronto Island Community, as well as visitors to the Island. We discussed different possibilities within our chapter as well as with the Tree Trust organization.



DETAILS



This magnificent Scots Pine (*pinus sylvestris*), growing on Centre Island to the east of the Avenue of the Islands and south of the main bridge, has provided a cool and shady resting spot for hundreds of thousands of people over the years. After the expropriation, and removal, of the Manitou Road homes and businesses from the 1950s into the early 1960s, the central area of the Toronto Islands was developed into a formalized promenade walk. This Scots Pine was planted on the former site of English's Boat House. It has an attractive scaly-orange-brown bark, and an extensive bonsai-like canopy. One of the first European trees to be introduced to Canada, it is highly adaptable in many suitable regions around the world, and is reported to live up to 700 years.

Warren Hoselton, retired City of Toronto Park Supervisor, Toronto Islands and his alter-ego of [Professor Elwood Pricklethorn](#) along with Tree Trust and TIC chapter members unanimously selected this tree for its social and historical significance.

Species: Scots Pine

Age: 60 years

EVENT

Filmed onsite on August 4, 2023: An interview with the winning tree

Released via [Youtube](#) September 10, 2023

tree of the year 2023

YouTube

tree of the year 2023

Celebrating Tree of the Year 2023: Scots Pine at Toronto Island | Tree Trust.ca

87 views • 1 month ago

Professor Pricklethorn

Watch how nature's grandeur takes center stage with the celebrated Scots Pine, crowned as the Tree of the Year! presented ...

and the award goes to... 7:10

TOWN OF BLUE MOUNTAINS (TBM)

HOW



The Sugar Maple was an obvious choice to the Tree of the Year committee. This tree was selected as it was *the* tree that launched the chapter which, since then, has expanded beyond tree preservation. Some of their accomplishments include: a 2023 tree inventory of public trees, numerous presentations to Municipal Council advocating for tree protection bylaws, establishment of a tree nursery to grow saplings from Tree Trust tree seeds, several school presentations and tree planting and stewardship events. This Tree of the Year is a landmark on the Georgian Trail.

Tree Trust coordinator, Betty Muise, and Arboreal Tree Care Services have loved and cared for this tree over the years.

DETAILS

Tree of the Year Winner

Species: **Sugar Maple**

Age: **80-90**

DBH: **125 cm**

Canopy: **20m**

Height: **17m**

6.6 total tons of carbon stored

\$446 (USD) in overall benefits this year

25,218 L of stormwater intercepted this year



EVENT

While no event was held, this tree was praised over Social Media and Press

HOW

A campaign through Social Media, Email blast, and print outlets invited individuals of the community to nominate a tree.

Over 20 nominations were submitted during the three months campaign.

Meaford Tree of the Year

We all love trees, but if you love one tree more than all the rest, it might just become the **Tree of the Year**

Do you know of a special tree that deserves to be honoured as our Tree of the Year? Tell us about it by submitting below:

[Nominate your Tree](#)

We will also have paper forms at the Refillery and look for an article published in the Meaford Independent!



DETAILS

A panel of judges including Helen Solmes, Jim Sullivan, Meaford heritage committee, and Meaford Tree Trust coordinator Pete Russell sorted through the submissions and voted based on a pre-specified set of criteria. The group spent 2 weeks of deliberations after the nominations closed.

EVENT

Sept. 19: During Forest Week
Special Guest Speakers:
Mayor Kentner, Chair Beautiful Joe Park Organization

COVERAGE

[Meaford Tree of the Year p.2](#)
[Beautiful Joe Sycamore Named Tree of the Year](#)

Fri, October 21, 2023

The Meaford Independent

HOME NEWS EDITORIAL LETTERS BUSINESS IN THE SCHOOLS LIFE & LEISURE SPORTS OBITUARIES ANNOUNCEMENTS CLASSIFIEDS CONTACT US SUBSCRIBE

LATEST NEWS Council is seeking input on Smart Farm Rentals - Get Involved!

Beautiful Joe Sycamore Named Tree of the Year

By Staff



[Council Meetings Meaford Click Here](#)

Popular this week



WATERLOO REGION

HOW



Waterloo Region Tree Trust and Reep Staff created a shortlist of notable trees with the goal to have a variety of tree ‘candidates’ accessible from various points in Waterloo Region, so that people could go and visit a tree close to where they live and/or work. The shortlist was narrowed down by our expert panel made up of people with forestry, tree, and heritage expertise.. An interpreter was hired to research the history and create profiles of the nominated trees which were then presented to the advisory panel and put to an anonymous vote.

The Advisory Panel of 5 deliberated and voted over one week.....



Tree of The Year 2023 Finalist: Cambridge

Tree of the Year 2023. Trees / 4 minutes of reading

White OakCambridgeCambridge Sculpture Garden, Grand Ave. S. Age: approximately 140 years oldHeight: 21.25 m / 70 ft (including trunk below grade) Diameter at Breast Height: ...

[Read More »](#)



Tree of The Year 2023 Winner: Waterloo

Tree of the Year 2023. Trees / 3 minutes of reading

Bur Oak Waterloo Waterloo Public Library, Main Library, Albert Street Age: approximately 120-130 years old Height: 23-24.5 m / 75-80 ft Diameter at Breast Height: ...

[Read More »](#)



Tree of the Year 2023 Finalist: Kitchener

Tree of the Year 2023. Trees / 3 minutes of reading

Weeping WillowKitchenerRockway Gardens, Floral Crescent Age: approximately 100 years old Height: 15.25-16.75 m / 50-55 ft Diameter at Breast Height: 118 cm / 46.5 in "It's the ...

[Read More »](#)

DETAILS



Tree of the Year Winner

Species: Bur Oak

Age: 120-130 years old

DBH: 127cm



Accompanying submission case:

Tree of the Year location	Blog entry	Notes
Waterloo	https://reepgreen.ca/tree-of-the-year-2023-waterloo/	Winner
Kitchener	https://reepgreen.ca/tree-of-the-year-2023-kitchener/	Finalist
Wilmot	https://reepgreen.ca/tree-of-the-year-2023-wilmot/	Finalist
Woolwich	https://reepgreen.ca/tree-of-the-year-2023-woolwich/	Finalist
Cambridge	https://reepgreen.ca/tree-of-the-year-2023-cambridge/	Finalist

“It’s got grandeur. . . .”

Sharon Woodley of the Uptown Tree Coalition is referring to a broadly-spreading, solitary oak next to the Albert Street parking lot at the Waterloo Public Library. The Coalition, which she and a few other Waterloo residents established in 2021 to champion the urban forest in the city core, has nominated it for Tree of the Year 2023. “We had to nominate it. Everyone in the neighbourhood loves it.” And Sharon should know, being an active community builder who moved into this neighbourhood more than 50 years ago.

COVERAGE

[Tree of the Year 2023](#)

[Sculpture Garden's 140-year-old white oak Tree of the Year finalist](#)

[Big trees needed in fight against climate crisis](#)

WATERLOO REGION

Big trees needed in fight against climate crisis

Reep and Tree Trust join forces for a unique public education program about the importance of old trees

By **Terry Ponder** Record Reporter
Saturday, August 19, 2023 | 2 min to read
Article was updated Aug 19, 2023

f x in e p b

JOIN THE CONVERSATION (2)



[a](#)

STRATFORD-PERTH

HOW

Stratford-Perth Tree Trust established a panel dedicated to assessing several historically significant trees in their community. Each member brought forth a case and deliberated based on a set criteria. Of the final few, the panel presented at Stratford Intermediate School to the highschool students.

DETAILS

This sugar maple was planted at the crest of the toboggan hill in Stratford at least 100 years ago, potentially when the original Stratford Collegiate Institute was constructed in the 1890's.

One hundred years of students seeking its shade to eat lunches and converse, and families tobogganing in winter took its toll on the grass under the tree. Once the grass was gone, the soil started eroding, resulting in very exposed roots. This tree was still in good health, but without stabilization of the slope, it would eventually die back. Our plan was to install low wooden berms held by rebar, then backfill with soil and top with mulch, sourced from the composted yard waste at the Stratford landfill.

The work was completed in a day with Tim and his crew plus 4 community volunteers. We could have used a second wheelbarrow!



EVENT

September 22, 2023 Semi-public event with 50-60 attendees
Special guest Speaker: **Councilor Brad Beatty**



Tree of the Year Winner: Species: **Sugar Maple**
Age: **100+** DBH: **91 cm** Height: **23m** **3.5 total tons of carbon stored**

COVERAGE



[Iconic sugar maple named Tree of the Year](#)