



TreeTrust TBM Local Native Tree Seedling Project: Final report February 4, 2022

Project Description:

With 2021 funding support from the TBM Sustainability Fund, TreeTrust TBM launched a project aimed at cultivating tree seedlings from locally-sourced seeds. *The Local Native Tree Seedling Project* aimed to establish a capacity to cultivate and plant saplings grown from highly successful native trees, locally adapted to the TBM.

Goals

The following goals were identified for this project with their completion status noted below:

- Secure agreement for Town nursery site – **Completed** (located at Tomahawk)
- Prepare site (soil test, soil amendment, tilling, as needed) – **Completed** including tilling by in-kind donation, use of the project funds to purchase weed barrier landscape fabric and installation of snow fencing (by TBM).
- Collect seeds from local native mature trees – **Completed**. Seeds were collected from 3 TreeTrust TBM trees and also from several 100+ year old trees in the TBM area (including acorns from the Beaver River Trail and other seed sources from local land owners). Note that we also located, dug up and transplanted seedlings from beneath old mature trees as an insurance against potential low seed germination and also as a “jump start” on the size of saplings.
- Attempt germination of 200 seeds – **Completed**. Note: Planted maple seeds and acorns into the nursery in October *but no report of germination results possible until late Spring 2022*.
- Media and community engagement and direct resident engagement /volunteers – **Completed** (but will continue indefinitely). 2021 activities included several media pieces and successful direct residential engagement /volunteers for seed and sapling harvesting (see attached press release which includes a list of volunteers and local land owners who made appropriate seed sources or seedlings available).
- Education – **Initiated but will be completed in spring**. Covid restrictions have affected our plans for indoor classroom visits however, we have made arrangements with the Beaver Valley Community School and the Wild School in Kimberville for educational sessions when the weather permits outdoor classes.

Some photos reflecting the key project activities shown on the next page and links to two media articles are provided below.

https://www.bluemountainsreview.ca/public_docs/news/The%20Review%20-%20Oct%205thw.pdf - see page 13

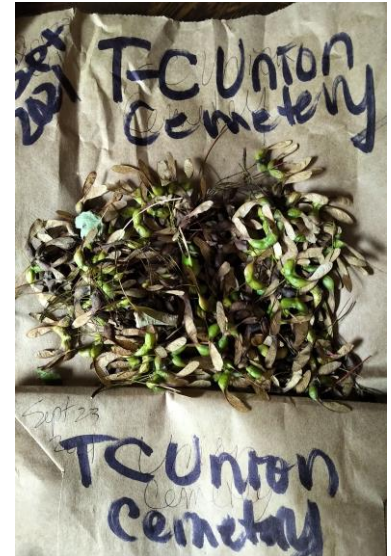
https://www.bluemountainsreview.ca/public_docs/news/The%20Review%20-%20Nov%202nd%20w.pdf - see page 21

Below: TBM Lead and Volunteer transplanting seedlings
Right: Planted oak acorns with rodent protection



Left: Oak sapling dug from underneath a 100+ year old tree, donated by a volunteer, from Heathcote

Below: Collected and labelled seeds and acorns





Left: Adding amendments

Top: Tilling of site