

Tree Trust TBM 2024 Final Report

November 11, 2024

Project Description:

The program outlined in this application builds on and leverages the tree care, tree planting, and community engagement momentum established in the first three years of Tree Trust TBM programming through the hiring of a part-time TT TBM Community Manager. Funding from Eco-Canada was secured for this position, but Tree Trust Headquarters (in Elora) is responsible for a portion of this wage. This funding application requested support to have the Tree Trust Program Manager present in TBM to implement three key project activities (outlined below). Although our funding request was cut in half, Tree Trust did its best to deliver on the following activities:

1. **Native Tree Nursery Version 2.0/Upgrades:** This project proposed upgrades to the Tree Trust nursery, including various enhancements.
2. **Tree Education Events:** We delivered tree walk/tree talk events for the public, focusing on the role of trees in our natural environment, species of trees in our local area, and good tree care and stewardship.
3. **Support for Completion of the Tree Inventory Project:** We provided support for the completion of the tree inventory project started in 2023, including training new (2024) volunteers.

Goals and Impacts

The overarching objective of this project was, through volunteerism and citizen engagement, to build the tree canopy in TBM as a key climate change mitigation and adaptation strategy while also enhancing the resilience and beauty of our local natural environment. Once reconfigured to be accomplished with half the budget, the project aimed to achieve the following specific goals:

- 1) **Relocation of the Tree Trust Native Tree Nursery:** The nursery was successfully relocated to a more suitable site, and posts were installed. We are now able to transplant trees from the existing (old) nursery in the spring and source and plant new stock. – **COMPLETED**



The new Tree Trust nursery site being tilled and new posts being installed.

2) Tree Education Events:

Two Tree Talk: Events were held at the Leonard E. Shore Public Library, each attracting approximately 30 participants. The first event, **Forest Conservation in the Amazon**, featuring Barbara Zimmerman, took place on March 25th. The second event, **Big Trees: Big Impact**, was held on April 29th and featured speakers Tobias Effinger and Braedon Witt. – **COMPLETED**



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Tree Talk
Forest Conservation in the Amazon
Monday, March 25, 7:00 - 9:00

Kayapo lands are located in the midst of one of the world's highest deforestation regions - an agricultural frontier with an expanding road network, and little if any law enforcement. Kayapo have fiercely protected their vast territory but face increased pressure from illegal incursions.

Tree Trust TBM is excited to be sponsoring several educational tree talks this spring. Our first in this series will be a talk will showcase conservation efforts on the Kayapo lands. Explore the importance of preserving Kayapo Indigenous Territories in the Amazon, empowering communities while protecting biodiversity. Learn how your choices impact this ecosystem. Join conservationist Dr. Barbara Zimmerman for an engaging discussion.

Where: L.E. Shore Library, 173 Bruce Street, Thornbury
When: Monday, March 25 from 7:00 - 9:00pm
Cost: Free, but donations are kindly encouraged
For more information please email: programs@tree trust.ca

Presenter: Barbara Zimmerman
Dr. Zimmerman's journey began with academic pursuits in ecology at the University of Guelph and Florida State University, leading her to become deeply involved in the indigenous activist movement of the Kayapo Indians in the Brazilian Amazon in 1989. Since then, she has worked tirelessly with local, national, and international partners to safeguard over 110,000 km² of legally ratified territories from encroachment, invasion, and deforestation.



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Tree Talk
Big Trees: Big Impact
Monday, April 29th, 7:00 - 9:00

Join us for this multi-speaker event!
Tree Trust TBM is excited to announce the second tree talk for this spring.

Braedon Witt, Master of Forest Conservation, on his experience conducting the tree inventory within TBM.

Accredited arborist Tobias Effinger will be speaking on mature tree care and conservation.

Our Guest Speakers will be discussing all things big trees including what makes them so valuable, how to care for them, and how tree inventories can assist in their preservation.

Where: L.E. Shore Library, 173 Bruce Street, Thornbury
When: Monday, April 29th from 7:00 - 9:00pm
Cost: Free, donations welcome
For more information please email: programs@tree trust.ca

To join our mailing list for upcoming Tree Talks & Walks or to hear about volunteer opportunities, please contact tbe@tree trust.ca

Tree Talk Posters for Forest Conservation in the Amazon and Big Trees: Big Impact.

Tree Care Day: Through watching the arborist at work, participants gained insights into the ecological significance of American Sycamores and learned proper techniques for tree care and stewardship. Tobias Effinger provided attendees with a thorough explanation of the work being conducted above. Held August 23rd, 2024.



American Sycamore Tree Care Day: Tobias Effinger, educating the public on the importance of American sycamore and tree care.

Nipissing Ridge: Fifteen dedicated volunteers came out to support the naturalization of Nipissing Ridge, working together to mulch, water, and plant new shrubs along the ridge. Their efforts contribute to enhancing local biodiversity and stabilizing the landscape, helping transform the area into a healthier, more resilient ecosystem. Held on Oct 26th, 2024.



Volunteers assisting with the mulching, watering, and planting of new shrubs at Nipissing Ridge.

- 3) **Volunteer Training for TBM Inventory:** Two talks focused on the tree inventory, one on the importance of the initiative and the other on how to evaluate tree health. 8 Sessions were held for new volunteers. – **COMPLETED**

Part 3: Tree Health Assessment



EXAMPLES OF CONDITION CATEGORIES
(as developed by Dr. Andy Kenney and Dr. Danijela Puric-Mladenovic, University of Toronto)

GIRDLING ROOTS



1: 1/3 to 1/2 of diameter of base is restricted by girdling roots



2: 1/2 to 3/4 of diameter of base is restricted by girdling roots



3: more than 3/4 of diameter is restricted by girdling roots

Slides from tree inventory presentation on tree health assessment to increase volunteer knowledge base.

Media Articles – Blue Mountain Review

"Tree Trust Upgrades Tree Nursery"
July 3, 2024, Issue

Tree Talk Poster
April 24, 2024, Issue

Tree Talk Article
April 3, 2024, Issue
"Tree Trust Tree Talk"
April 29, 2024

Tree Talk Poster
March 20, 2024, Issue

Tree Talk Article
February 28, 2024, Issue

Tree Talk Poster in BMR
February 28, 2024, Issue