



Tree News

September 2026

Dutch Elm Disease (DED) update

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatoon/dutch-elm-disease-saskatoon-9.7319843>
[Dutch elm disease ravaged Canadian cities. Can we help trees protect themselves?](#)

The latest information we have is that the City sent 372 suspected Dutch Elm samples submitted to the provincial lab for testing, 71 are outstanding to date, 280 were returned negative and 9 positive cases of infected trees were identified. An additional 16 were identified by committee and removed based on visual identification. Additional Elms were removed as they were in declining health or dead. The City has completed the injection of 20 trees.

Caution: If you are having your Elms pruned be sure to check that people doing the pruning are ISA (International Society of Arboriculture) certified. The ISA certified arborists are trained to do the least amount of damage to your trees. There are a number of local tree removal companies who may be great at removing trees, but they tend to not do the best job in pruning and retaining your trees. Hire wisely and protect your trees.



We are seeing more of these popping up around Saskatoon.

City Policy Discussions: Webinar on September 14th

The Informational Report; [Economic Value of Natural Assets in a Changing Prairie Climate](#) was presented to the Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities, & Corporate Services Sept 1st. The Recommendations can be found on page 44 and include some key tree points:

- Preserve the natural environments of the Northeast Swale and reduce human disturbances both within and around the area.
- Reducing park maintenance costs by naturalizing a portion of parks such as Briarwood Park or planting lower-maintenance species (e.g., clover)
- Enhance the heat-mitigation ecosystem service by reducing the intensity of maintenance practices in urban parks
- Increase the number of green and blue infrastructures, which can improve both heat mitigation and stormwater management. These features should be integrated into city planning and new residential developments.

- Continue afforestation efforts while ensuring functional diversity in urban parks and on municipally owned lands in Saskatoon. In parks such as Briarwood, increase tree density and diversify species composition.
- Integrating green spaces into the planning of new neighbourhoods would enhance residents' access to nature and improve overall well-being.

Jessie Best with the City's Sustainability Department and Renny Grilz, Director of Conservation for Meewasin will share the study results in a public webinar to be held on September 14, 2026, from 11am to noon CST.

To attend the webinar, please register at <https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/dc68d2d9-a265-4d97-baeb-5a9054f91237@f4118c16-85fe-440e-8bf2-573cc8c6b420>

If you are having issues with registration, please email sustainability@saskatoon.ca.

Prairie Colours art event at the Northeast Swale on Sunday Sept. 13!

Throughout the afternoon we will have dancers, poets, visual art installations, tours and learning about swales with CPAWS-Saskatchewan, and a craft you can add to the trail or take home to celebrate the Swales.

Tree Planting volunteer opportunities, join us:

Tree Planting at Chief Whitecap with Meewasin Tuesday **Sept 15th 9-11:30 am**. Learn More and Register at https://docs.google.com/document/d/1h-p_HAEJGPRPrC5-KcbUOdEQUA8P1nx_ZHuRw7JlPQk/edit?tab=t.0

National Tree Day Tree planting on 14th Street with Tree Canada and Meewasin, **26 Sept. 1-3 pm**, registration required. To Register, go to: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/tree-canadas-national-tree-day-planting-event-in-saskatoon-tickets-1996114740924?aff=oddtcreator>

Humboldt Broncos Memorial forest planting at Clavet, Friday **October 9th 1-3:00**. To Register, go to: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/humboldt-broncos-memorial-tree-planting-event-at-the-clavet-area-forest-tickets-1999180652147>

Those interested in car pooling, email trees@sostrees.ca

Hands-On Pruning Workshop:

Arbour Crest will be presenting a pruning workshop for the Saskatoon Horticultural Society on **Saturday, October 3, from 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM**. Location will probably be the U of S. He will be teaching the How? What? Where? When? Why? of pruning basics. Also, he will be discussing what quality pruning tools to buy and how they are sharpened. To sign up, please contact the SHS office or email info@saskatoonhortsociety.ca

Thank you!

Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers who help to spread the Dutch Elm Disease information through Art in the Park and other community events.

Tree Rise Planting, 9 volunteers planted 60 tree seedlings at the [St. Barbe Baker Afforestation Area](#). The planting was organized by Tree Rise a student organization and supported by the City of Saskatoon and SOS Trees Coalition volunteers.



Other Information You Can Use

From our friends at [EcoFriendly West](#) and others

Increasing Urban Green Space is packed full of interesting urban forest approaches around the world that are increasing urban green spaces and tree coverage. We highly recommend it to anyone interested in expanding Saskatoon's green spaces to check it out. <https://www.ecofriendlywest.ca/increasing-urban-green-space/>

Dead logs and fallen trees act like “giant teabags”, leaching nutrients into the forest floor.

Sierra Club: <https://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/watching-logs-decay-more-interesting-you-d-think>

Strategically placing forests upwind of urban areas could reduce temperatures across much of a city.

Anthropocene: <https://www.anthropocenemagazine.org/2026/08/urban-heat-overlooked-fix-greening-the-land-upwind-of-cities>

Dutch Elm Disease Reminder

Help protect our beautiful elm trees and historic canopies by:

1. Not storing or burning elm wood
2. Disposing of elm wood at the Saskatoon Landfill (it's free for residential loads!)
3. Never pruning elms during the April 1 – August 31 ban
4. If you spot unhealthy elms or suspicious wood, report it by submitting a **photo online**
<https://www.saskatoon.ca/services-residents/housing-property/city-owned-trees/tree-diseases-pests/dutch-elm-disease#dedform>

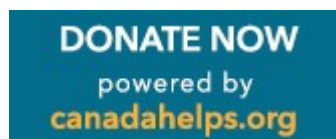
Learn more at
saskatoon.ca/dutchelmdisease



We Need You. Get involved!

Stand up for our trees & join SOS Trees Coalition Today

SOS Trees Coalition is on the move and we have increased our efforts working with the City of Saskatoon to protect our trees. In addition to Arbor Week, our largest public education event, we are advocating for tree protection and increased City tree planting and monitoring of Saskatoon's Urban Forestry Management Plan. Every member and donor is crucial as we build our coalition. Please take a moment today and sign up for your [Membership](#) and/or donation today. Thank you!



<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/12757>

Memberships can also be purchased by printing out & sending our [membership form](#): <https://sostrees.ca/pdf/SOS-Trees-MembershipForm-2022.pdf>. Payment can be mailed or sent to us via [e-transfer](#).

Create Your Tree Legacy

A planned gift may be one of the most impactful ways that you can support the trees in Saskatoon. A planned gift, life insurance, annuity, etc. to SOS Trees Coalition will make a difference. A great example is the gift left by Joan Browne. The Joan Browne fund has been a supporter of Arbor Week tree planting activities and other educational programs. We are very thankful for the forethought that Joan Browne had and her vision of Saskatoon with a healthy urban forest. For more information on how you can include SOS Trees Coalition in your estate planning email us at trees@sostrees.ca.



SOS Trees Coalition is pleased to offer this electronic newsletter to our members and supporters who have an interest in trees in Saskatoon. Through sharing information we can all be more consistently informed and therefore become better advocates for our urban forest and the individual trees that make life so much more enjoyable. If you do not want to receive this newsletter or to share your comments with us regarding our publication please email us at trees@sostrees.ca. You can also follow us on Facebook at SOS Trees Coalition <https://www.facebook.com/SOSTreesCoalition>.

Membership and contributions to SOS Trees Coalition support the protection and fostering of stewardship of Saskatoon's urban forest. To become a member or supporter go to: [membership](#) or you can mail directly to: [1618 9th Avenue North, Saskatoon, SK S7K3A1](#). SOS Trees Coalition is a registered charity.

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PARTNERS

