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THE Bulletin

Downtown Toronto

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Volume IX No. VIII

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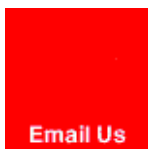
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FEATURED AD



Letter to the Editor



Top Stories

Now is the best time to plant a tree!

The City of Toronto will plant a tree on the city-owned portion in front of your home for free.

By **Bulletin Staff**
[Print this story](#)

If you've been thinking about planting a tree in your yard, now is the time!

Toronto has had lots of rain this summer; lots and lots of rain. Moist soil allows tree roots to easily soak up the water they need to establish themselves in their new location

Cool fall weather will help your tree establish itself before spring rains and summer heat stimulate new growth above ground

Planting a tree will provide habitat and food over the winter months for cardinals, blue jays, and other Toronto winter residents

Evergreens planted on the north side of your home will act as a windbreak, lowering heating bills by up to 10%

Tree canopies intercept precipitation during storms, reducing runoff and improving water quality

Planting a shade tree this fall will provide cooling shade next year and for years to come. Besides providing shade, trees produce oxygen, create sound and visual screens and add color and texture to the landscape.

LEAF (Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests) is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to protecting and improving Toronto's urban forest. They can help you get the right tree in the right place! Their subsidized Backyard Tree Planting Program provides hands-on assistance to Toronto residents who want to plant a tree in their backyard.

LEAF helps homeowners and residents of multi-units select appropriate native species and planting locations. They also provide extensive education and tree care information in order to encourage proper stewardship. Species selection and planting location are decided upon during a site consultation with a certified



Poll question

The city installed a 'scramble crosswalk' at Yonge and Dundas, with plans to put more around Toronto. Do you think it's a good idea?

- Yes, it's safer
- No, wait is too long

[Submit your opinion](#)

To see poll results click [here](#).

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arborist, and are based on site conditions (soil, light, moisture), available space, energy conservation (shade and windbreak), present conflicts (other trees, buildings, play areas, etc.) and potential future conflicts (construction or renovation). The species offered vary in height, shape and growing conditions, ensuring that the requirements of most homeowners and their yards can be met. Participants of the program are asked to provide proper, ongoing tree care. This approach helps ensure that trees will reach their maximum size and age, and as result will produce maximum environmental benefits.

The price per tree ranges from \$80 to \$180 and includes a thirty minute backyard consultation with a certified arborist, a five to eight foot tree, and full planting service. The price that you pay is approximately half of the per-tree cost to deliver the program. LEAF program partners, such as the Toronto Parks and Trees Foundation, Ontario Power Generation and Toronto Hydro fund the balance. Native shrubs are also available and offer a low-maintenance way to beautify your yard and make it more attractive to songbirds and butterflies.

For more information visit www.leafontario.org or call 416-413-9244

Looking to plant a tree in front of your house? The City of Toronto will plant a tree on the city-owned portion in front of your home for free. For information visit www.toronto.ca/trees or call 416-338-TREE.

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