



Meewasin Valley Authority
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NEWS RELEASE

for immediate release

Arbor Day 2022 Celebrations May 17th, 2022

Meewasin, SOS Trees Coalition and the City of Saskatoon celebrate the importance of Arbor Day in Saskatchewan. As a part of Arbor Week from May 21st to 29th this year, Tuesday, May 24th is when Meewasin is celebrating Arbor Week with SOS Trees. Our celebration includes a tree planting event, which will run near in Kinsmen Park near the Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan. The designation of Arbor Day and tree planting event will help to bring awareness to the importance of trees and their benefit to people and the environment.

**Media is invited to join us on May 24th at 1:00 pm for our Arbor Day 2022 Celebrations
At the Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan, Kinsmen Park.**

[Register here](#) to join us for Meewasin's Volunteer Event for Arbor Week.

Each year Meewasin does significant land restoration projects throughout the Meewasin Valley that includes planting many trees. Many of these trees are dedicated through our dedication program, which helps to connect individuals and families to trees, shrubs, benches and bricks to honour a special person or time in their life. Meewasin CEO, Andrea Lafond speaks of the Arbor Day declaration, "Any day that is set aside to remind folks of the importance of our environment is fantastic. Meewasin is so proud to have a history of restoring native landscapes and creating special outdoor places for the community to enjoy."

SOS Trees Coalition encourages Saskatoon residents to celebrate trees on Arbor Day by planting a tree or pledging to take care of the trees in your yard or adjacent areas. "There is so much we can all do to contribute to the wellbeing of the tree canopy you live under," explains Linda Moskalyk, President of SOS Trees. She continues, "SOS Trees Coalition is a resource for anyone wanting to learn more about the planting and maintenance of trees. We have partnered with Meewasin to plant a few trees and do our part this Arbor Day".

Learn more about Arbor week here <https://www.sostrees.ca/arborweek.html>

MEEWASIN ECO-SCAVENGER HUNT AT BEAVER CREEK CONSERVATION AREA

Starting May 25th: In celebration of Arbor Week, Meewasin is hosting a self-guided tree-themed Eco-Scavenger Hunt where participants can learn to identify and record their nature findings as citizen scientists! Stop by the Beaver Creek Interpretive Centre to pick up your Eco-Scavenger

Hunt card. Participants are encouraged to report their sightings using the iNaturalist app or website.

iNaturalist is a global database that locates, maps and tracks species that can be used in scientific research and increases the amount of data we have on life on our planet. Your nature findings assist Meewasin's stewardship efforts and help to create better wildlife management plans!

Collected data will be used as part of Meewasin's monitoring framework to assist in Meewasin's stewardship efforts. Build your nature knowledge and take part in the activity by visiting Beaver Creek during regular hours (Wed. – Sun. from 10 am – 5 pm). Learn what you need to know before you go here.



The City of Saskatoon has developed an Urban Forestry Management Plan which includes goals to increase the tree canopy, trial new tree types and improve tree protection in Saskatoon. The city is currently developing a tree protection by law to better protect our urban forest.

The City is developing a Tree Protection Bylaw to provide improved clarity on the protection, growth and preservation of public trees, as well as improve the City's ability to protect our urban forest.

To contact SOS Trees: Email: trees@sostrees.ca or visit: www.sostrees.ca

For more information about Meewasin's Dedication Program: Visit www.meewasin.com/donate or email donations@meewasin.com

For more information on the City of Saskatoon's Urban Forest, visit www.saskatoon.ca/trees

About Meewasin Valley Authority

The Meewasin Valley Authority exists to ensure a healthy and vibrant river valley, with a balance between human use and conservation by:

- *Providing leadership in the management of its resources;*
- *Promoting understanding, conservation and beneficial use of the Valley; and*
- *Undertaking programs and projects in river valley development and conservation, for the benefit of present and future generations.*

There are 67 square kilometers of land and over +105km of established trail, which has seen up to 2.24 million trail visits per year, in the Meewasin Valley. The area also features sites that help people to connect to nature through experiences such as Beaver Creek Conservation Area, the Meewasin Northeast Swale, Saskatoon Natural Grasslands, the River Landing Spray Area, and the Cameco Meewasin Skating Rink @Nutrien Plaza. Meewasin is a non-profit organization that relies on donations and volunteers for sustainability. To get involved or learn more visit www.meewasin.com